The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1894.

The Week.

EIGHT of the twelve New England Senators—all Republicans—voted against the confirmation of Peckham on Friday. Four of these voted or paired for Hornblower, but went over to the Democrats to beat Peckham. Hawley did not vote either way when Hornblower was under consideration, but voted against Peckham—reading, the *Sun* says, arguments from the *Sun* in justification of his course. The result is, of course, mainly if not wholly the personal triumph of the basest and most corrupt politician in the Union, and the discouragement of men like Mr. Peckham who have stood by good causes in evil days, and made sacrifices for the public good. In the whole vote against Peckham, there were fifteen Democrats and twenty-four Republicans. His rejection was, therefore, Republican work.

The only rag which the leading Republican organ can fish out of its political ash-barrel to cover the shame of the Republican Senators who put themselves so readily at Hill's service, is what it calls the "disclosure" that Mr. Peckham had "declared a protective tariff unconstitutional." This, it says, was "so startling that we are not surprised so many Republican Senators refused to vote for him." These poor startled innocents can never have read the Democratic platform of 1892, which said: "We declare it to be a fundamental principle of the Democratic party that the federal Government has no constitutional power to impose and collect tariff duties except for the purpose of revenue only." According to that, no Democrat, not even Judge Maynard, whom the Republicans would otherwise be delighted to vote for, could go on the Supreme bench with Republican consent. Hornblower presumably held the same doctrine as Peckham, yet Hoar and Lodge voted for him. Their sudden discovery of conscientious and constitutional scruples in Peckham's case was most suspiciously timed. Hill had to have their votes, and they furnished them, along with their scruples, on demand. Mr. Peckham, as he has since publicly given out, does not hold and never "declared" the doctrine now imputed to him. Messrs. Hoar and Lodge could easily have satisfied themselves of this if they had been as anxious to find out the truth as they were to serve the devil.

The appointment of Senator White of Louisiana to the long vacant place on the Supreme bench, considered upon its merits, is to be highly commended. He is a lawyer of marked ability; he has seen service on the Supreme bench of his own State; he is versed in the civil code of Louisiana, which plays an important part in many cases coming before the court; he is only forty-eight years old and in vigorous health, so that he may very likely serve for a quarter of a century. During his three years in the Senate, he has made a high reputation as a constitutional lawyer and a clear and vigorous thinker. He has displayed marked independence more than once, as in his opposition to the anti-option law and to the free-coinage lunacy, both of which were very strong in his State. Nor should it ever be forgotten that the whole country owes him a debt of gratitude for his leadership in fighting the lottery gang when they dominated the politics of Louisiana. His appointment gives the Gulf tier of States the first really efficient representative it has had on the Supreme bench since John A. Campbell of Alabama resigned his place to "go with his State" in 1861.

The conviction of McKane is a gain for the cause of good government which fitly supplements the defeat of Maynard's nomination for a judgeship of the Court of Appeals. Both Maynard and McKane, in different ways, assailed the integrity of our form of government by tampering with elections and their results. Maynard's case was submitted to a jury of the whole people; McKane's to a jury of twelve men. The verdict of both tribunals was the same. Ex-Secretary Tracy has done his duty in the recent trial. He deserves warm praise for the part which he played in it, and we would not detract in the slightest degree from the credit which is his due. But Mr. Tracy is himself one of the men who are responsible for the growth of McKaneism to the terrible proportions which it finally reached. He knew five years ago that McKane was a rascal. He knew that the alleged conversion of Gravesend from a Democratic into a Republican stronghold was a fraud. He knew that McKane was a man who ought to have been kicked down the steps of the White House when he had the impudence to call there. But so long as McKane swindled for the benefit of the Republican party, neither Harrison, nor Tracy, nor Fassett, nor the editor of the New York *Tribune*, nor any other Republican leader had a word to say against him. No more had the Democratic managers previous to 1888, when he counted Gravesend for them.

There is an amusing competition between the *Herald* and the *World* as to which of them convicted McKane. The *World* says that "it is a triumph for the *World*," but the *Herald* says "it is the *Herald's* work," and cites Judge Gaynor in support of this startling proposition. Now if either assertion be true, McKane is entitled under the Constitution to a new trial, for the Constitution says he shall be convicted only by a jury, and shall not be deprived of life, liberty, or property "unless by the law of the land and the judgment of his peers." If either of these newspapers has convicted him, therefore, a great wrong has been done, and the Court of Appeals will surely discharge him, trial by newspaper being unknown to our system of jurisprudence. The question will remain, however, Are trial and conviction by a morning newspaper "jeopardy" in the sense in which the term is used in the Constitution? That is, can a man after such conviction be again put on his trial before a jury? We venture no opinion on this, but the point is evidently a nice one. There is another difficulty not less serious. Can trial by newspaper be prevented? McKane's jury was guarded with extraordinary strictness, and Judge Bartlett is supposed to be above reproach, and yet McKane was being tried all the while by two newspapers, both daily. Can this be prevented?

In the hearing before the Senate judiciary committee last week, touching the injunction granted by Judge Clute, the county judge, restraining the clerk of the Senate, Mr. Kenyon, from calling the name of Mr. Wolfert, whom the Senate had seated in place of McCarty, it came out that ex-Judge Maynard was really at the bottom of the whole affair. Judge Clute testified that Maynard drew the papers and brought them to him, and said they were all right, and asked him to sign them, and as he was busy in drawing a jury, and had no time to look into the matter, he did sign them. Afterwards he sent for Maynard and told him that unless he could show him some authority for what he had done, he would vacate the injunction. Maynard then said he would look for authorities, but soon came back and said he could find none, so the injunction was vacated. As Maynard ought never to have been put on the bench of the Court of Appeals, and would never have been put there by any Governor but Gov. Flower, we will not express our astonishment that any man who had been a judge of the Court of Appeals should suppose that a county judge, or any judge, could restrain the clerk of the Senate from calling the roll of that house. That such a thing should get into the head of any lawyer, and that

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Maynard (after all that has happened) should be willing to appear in such an affair, looks as if much trouble had deranged his mind. If on examination he can be cleared of the charge of insanity, it is he, and not Judge Clute, whom the Senate should punish for contempt.

Those who still think the scheme of annexing Hawaii was not hatched in this country, would do well to ponder some statements recently made by Mr. W. N. Armstrong in a speech before the Annexation Club in Honolulu:

"While he was with Kalakaua in Vienna in 1881," the report of his speech says, "he met his old friend William Walter Phelps, then American minister to Austria, and they discussed the question of the future of Hawaii. Mr. Phelps advocated annexation, and insisted on his (Mr. Armstrong's) seeing Mr. Blaine on his return to Washington, and took the trouble to write to Mr. Blaine on the subject. He (Mr. Armstrong) did see Mr. Blaine, and found that he took a warm interest in the matter, but President Garfield died at that time and Mr. Blaine left office."

A great many brilliant schemes of foreign policy, with nitrate and sugar attachments, were brought to naught by that same leaving of office.

It is safe to say that nobody outside newspaper offices, and very few inside them, will read the portentous document which is given out as President Dole's reply to Minister Willis, and which is variously described as overwhelming, scorching, irrefutable, and the like. This does excellently for headlines, but the man who, for his sins, is forced to read the letter itself will discover, in the first place, that it was not written by Dole at all, but by the more valiant and less discreet Thurston, that it is largely based upon irresponsible newspaper chatter, and that nearly every specification contains a positive disclaimer of any intention of "charging you or your Government" with what was, in fact, most distinctly charged in the letter of December 27. President Dole penned that heroic epistle for use in this country, and, after refusing for more than two weeks to make good his assertions of fact, turned the job over to Thurston, who now practically avows that the whole thing was only a bit of political humbug, and hopes that nobody's feelings will be hurt.

That attempt to arouse sympathy in this country for the endangered patriots in Honolulu having served its purpose and been laid aside, there is now a revival of royalist plots to affright the civilized world. This time there is to be a wholesale use of dynamite and poison, with the British minister and British marines darkly in the background; and though the dynamite explosions have thus far been limited to a cartridge dropped by a patriotic but nervous soldier, and the poison to cheese and macaroni in deadly proportions, "there is no question that this plot has been arranged, and that if there is any opportunity it will be carried out." Of course, when a government is in daily peril of being blown up or poisoned, it will not occur to any one to inquire too curiously whether it is taxing people without representation, or masquerading as a republic in so transparent a disguise that even the American League in Honolulu has tired of the imposture, and now cries loudly for some "representative form of government."

The international law of the last Administration got another black eye last week, when the mixed commission on Chilian claims decided that the United States had no "probable cause" for detaining the *Itata* at San Diego, and must now pay damages for that illegal action. As this is merely confirmatory of the prior decision of a United States court, we presume that Gen. Harrison and ex-Secretary Tracy will not care to argue the matter further. The affair will take its place alongside the ignominious overturning by the Paris tribunal of the other grotesque piece of international law which was set up in the Bering Sea controversy.

The Texas men in Congress are "red-hot" for an income tax, but there could not be a more vigorous protest against the policy than that which appeared the other day in the most prominent journal of Texas, the Galveston *News*. It characterizes the measure as "a tax on the enterprise, industry, and earning capacity of the citizen"; says that "it means, not equal and uniform taxation, but discriminating class taxation"; and, more than this, is "a direct and dangerous departure from the policy of the Democratic party and from the principles upon which free and equal republican government is based." The *News* emphasizes the brutality of the scheme in the provision which authorizes an indefinite multitude of officers and agents, spies, and informers to ransack the private affairs of any citizen having $4,000 or over of income, or purporting to have over $3,500 and less than $4,000, which authorizes them to assess at discretion a penalty of 50 or 100 per cent. additional tax for such a citizen's alleged misstatement of his assets on oath, and which, in effect, makes their reports and findings conclusive against him without a chance to have the proceedings judicially reviewed or the wrong and extortion which they may involve averted or redressed. It recalls a declaration by the Supreme Court some years ago when it overruled a similar provision of an administrative customs law which is exceedingly pat:

"Any compulsory discovery by extorting the party's oath, or compelling the production of his private books and papers to convict him of crime or to forfeit his property, is contrary to the principles of a free government. It is abhorrent to the instincts of an Englishman. It is abhorrent to the instincts of an American. It may suit the purposes of despotic power, but it cannot abide the pure atmosphere of political liberty and personal freedom."

Advocates of the assessment of personal property by means of the listing system will find little encouragement in the "Report of the Tax Commission of Ohio," presented to Gov. McKinley on December 23, 1893. Ohio has "the most efficient and minute scheme of bringing upon the duplicate all classes of property which has been devised in any State." Not only is the citizen bound under oath to fill out a complete return of his personal property, but the law in addition empowers each county to contract with "tax inquisitors," who may be paid 20 per cent. of the tax upon all previously unassessed personal property entered through their efforts upon the tax duplicates. Even under the operation of this drastic provision, "the general property tax has become in the cities to a very considerable extent a tax upon tangible property only." In the State at large intangible property pays 9.4 per cent. of the taxes. But, in the five counties containing the chief cities of Ohio, intangible property pays only 5.2 per cent. of the taxes; Hamilton County, including Cincinnati, returning but 3.4 per cent., and Cuyahoga County, including Cleveland, but 5 per cent. In short, the general property tax is, in Ohio, as in New York, flagrantly unjust in its operation.

Turning their attention to its reform, the commission not only recognize that, although nominally a tax upon property, it is and must be in fact paid out of income, but even go further, and assert that income, and not the value of property owned, is the true index of ability to aid in bearing the burdens of the State. Especially upon businesses of a quasi-monopolistic character taxation should be proportionate, therefore, rather to their earnings than to their property. An interesting investigation as to the relative pressure of taxation, State and local, upon the incomes derivable from various sorts of property and business leads to the conclusion that, in Ohio, whereas railways pay of their net earnings from 5 to 12 per cent., banks pay from 17 to 23 per cent., and choice city real estate pays from 14 to 25 per cent. of its gross rental. The commission therefore suggest an annual franchise tax on corporations, including railways, and the extension of the corporate organization tax to foreign corporations doing business in the State. Some further portion of the intangible property that now escapes taxation they propose to reach by an extension, and an increase in rate, of the inherit-

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ance tax, and by a privilege tax upon transfers of property, and upon appeals, writs of error, etc. Although not without its questionable features, for example the last-quoted recommendation, this Ohio report is, as a whole, deserving of more attention than commonly falls to the lot of documents of its class.

No charge has been more indignantly denied by good Republicans than that protection is essentially and viciously socialistic. But ex-President Harrison, in his reluctant emergence as a Presidential candidate at Indianapolis on Wednesday week, innocently "gave the whole thing away." Said the good man: "It is generally accepted now as a right principle that our city councils, our county commissioners, our State legislatures, should legislate to create work for the unemployed." And he added: "The Republican theory has been all along that it was right to so legislate as to provide work, employment, comfort to the American workingman. We believe that the national Government has a duty to perform in this respect as well as the city council and the board of county commissioners." That is to say, protection and socialism are one in principle. Any one who attentively considers the theory of those two forms of interfering with individual initiative and liberty will see that they spring from a common root. Any one who observes the way protection and socialism have gone hand in hand in Germany and France for the past ten years will be convinced of their identity of spirit. And now Gen. Harrison admits that identity in the most unmistakable terms.

In this he is at one with his two rivals for the Presidential nomination. Reed and McKinley have already taken the position that it is the duty of the national Government to provide work and good wages for all applicants, and from this time on it will doubtless be a close race between the three to see which one can promise the most work and the highest wages. So far as this is not demagogy, it is rank socialism. Suppose the Republicans should carry the next Presidential election on the strength of such promises, where could they stop? Wages would not go up or work be multiplied, except in accordance with the law of supply and demand, and how irresistible would then be the appeal of the deceived workingmen for Government workshops, old-age and accident insurance, the nationalization of railways and telegraphs, with easy work and good pay for everybody, and the rest of the socialistic programme? It would not do for McKinley to draw back on the score of expense, for all he would have to do would be to clap on cruel taxes, make the foreigners pay them promptly, and have plenty of money for everything.

Dr. Stanton Coit has an apparently authorized interview in the *Sun*, in which he gives in detail his plan of city improvements. It includes an expenditure of $20,000,000 by the city within the next six months, and, if necessary, an expenditure of $100,000,000 in pulling down the backs of tenement houses and converting them into "parks," and the employment of all people out of work, by the State, until such time as private employers call them off. He also wants an underground railroad to be constructed and owned by the city, and lots of "swimming pools," "private baths," "water-closets," and "halls" to be constructed at public expense for the people. In the whole interview there is not an allusion to the source from which the money for these things is to come. In fact, the compartment which ought to be devoted to "receipts" seems wholly wanting in the doctor's head. He overlooks, too, completely the effect which these city luxuries are to have on the rural population. It is a fact that even now few farmers within 100 miles of New York can get any one to work for them; this shows, we fear, that Dr. Coit's sociology is a very lobsided science. The interview richly merits the *Sun's* heading:

"The People of the City Are to Lift Themselves by Their Bootstraps Out of the Slough of Hard Times by Taxing Poverty to Pay for Employing the Poor."

Col. T. W. Higginson, in a recent lecture before the Nationalist Club in Boston, is reported by the Boston *Herald* to have spoken of an old claim, "now kept up by the New York *Nation*," that "what is done by the public is never so well done as by private capital, which has been exploded over and over again." No such claim was ever made by the *Nation*. If Col. Higginson had substituted "hardly ever" for "never," he would have come somewhat nearer the truth. The post-office illustration which he used will do him no good. The *Nation* has always said that *some* things were better done by Government than by individuals, and especially things which individuals would not do at all because they would not pay; and the post-office is one of these. No private company would undertake to cover the United States with post-offices any more than to maintain military roads, because the returns would not meet the expenses. The Government this year is $7,000,000 out of pocket in carrying on the post-offices. In New York city, however, we could get a much better postal service from an express company than we get from the Government. All service is apt to be bad in establishments where it is not necessary that the income should meet the outgo. This fact affects everybody from the chief down. It makes discipline slacker; makes the selection of employees less strict, and the accountability for service less severe. In drawing the line between the things which should be done by Government and the things which should be left to private enterprise, we have, as in all other transactions of life, to use judgment, and pay attention to human experience, just as a householder does. He never draws up a list of things which nothing will induce him to buy and which he must make for himself at any cost, no matter what anybody says. Mr. J. S. Mill is not as much of an authority now as he used to be, but his definition of the limits of the province of government has never been improved on, and the Nationalists would do well to look at it.

Thus far all efforts (if they may be called efforts) to bring together the Senators at Trenton in one body and so to take the brake from the wheels of legislation, have failed. The result will be the passage of a good many measures, some of them very commendable, by the Assembly and the Republican Senators sitting by themselves, the refusal of the Governor to receive or sign these bills, and a contest more or less expensive and prolonged in getting them passed upon by the highest courts. It is not difficult to foretell where the punishment for this condition of affairs will be applied by the people. It is the Democratic minority in the Senate who have produced the deadlock, and they will be held accountable for the result without the credit of any honorable motives. When, as in this case, Senators present themselves to be sworn in, whose seats are not even contested by their opponents at the polls, the people are not going to stop to discuss nice points of parliamentary law raised in order to find an excuse for depriving such Senators of their places.

The question whether the game of football ought to be encouraged was discussed in Philadelphia last week by two college professors—Woodrow Wilson of Princeton, who took the affirmative, and Burt G. Wilder of Cornell, in the negative. Prof. Wilson made the familiar plea that the game develops moral qualities, but Prof. Wilder met this very neatly when he asked, "If football be so noble a game—if it be a game which has such possibilities for the training of youth—why then does an ex-football captain, under his own name, state that an umpire in the shape of a perfect sport should be employed to keep the young men in order?" We think the defenders of the game as now played would do well to omit the "moral-qualities" argument. It is really a little too much.

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TAMMANY AND REPUBLICAN BOSSES.

DR. PARKHURST made the following observations at the meeting of the City Vigilance League on Saturday night:

"We do not want to be run by any religious clique, any political clique, any man, nor any body of men. We want leaders, but we do not want bosses. I do not care a rap what the political affiliations of bosses are. I would rather be run by a Tammany Hall boss than a Republican boss, for the more pretensions of decency a boss makes, the more dangerous he is. I speak of this with a good deal of feeling at this time, for the possibilities of evil that are wrapped up in the political boss have recently been brought home to me."

Nothing truer or more timely has been said of late in this State. Bossism—that is, the practice of waiting to hear from one man how to vote, and how to legislate, and how to nominate—is killing, here and elsewhere, the state of mind on the part of the bulk of the people which is necessary for the maintenance of a really republican form of government. It is truly the beginning of the end, for, after a people has for a series of years been directed by its bosses how to vote and how to legislate, the transition to a régime in which the boss would save it the trouble of voting and do all the work of government himself, seems simple and easy. Already we may well ask, What is the use of the Legislature in Albany, with all its talk and expense, if it cannot act without Platt's directions? Why not let Platt act without the intervention of the Speaker, and the references to committees, and the three readings, and the committee of the whole, and the sham debates, and all the rest of the antiquated machinery of the earlier days?

Under the present system, too, the responsibility is divided, in the public eye, between Platt and the Legislature, whereas it ought to be concentrated on Platt. People cling to the old notion of Silas Wright's days that the legislators come up to Albany with open minds, and are won over by the arguments they hear in debate and from deputations who appear before committees; the fact being that they get a "tip" from the boss as to what line the majority is to take this year on all great questions of the day, and that line has no more to do with the welfare of the people of New York than of the people of Ohio. This is all wrong. Whichever form of government we have, we ought to have it openly and in the light of day. We ought to be governed either by the Legislature or by the boss, and not by the boss skulking behind the Legislature. And from this point of view one boss is about as good as another. Croker was the boss of the last Legislature, and differed from Platt as a boss only in acting more openly, and probably in filling his own pockets, which we do not believe Platt does. But he was no worse enemy of republican government than Platt is. Both of them are enemies of the state of mind among the people which makes republican government possible. The notion that republican government can last long among a people who have got into the habit of acting under the direction of leaders who control them, not through speeches and writings—that is, through the arts of persuasion—but through secret orders, is a chimera.

Equally important is Dr. Parkhurst's statement that he would "rather be run by a Tammany Hall boss than a Republican boss, for the more pretensions to decency a boss makes, the more dangerous he is." And this remark covers not only our local boss, but all Republican public men. It covers especially men like Senators Hoar and Lodge. It is far worse morally, far more mischievous in its influence on our political manners, for such as these to help Hill to punish men for defeating his scheme of putting a dishonest man on the bench of the Court of Appeals, than for Hill to concoct the scheme and try to carry it out. People expected nothing better from Hill, the spawn, as he is, of the village caucus and grogshop; but when the names of Hoar and Lodge are mentioned, we all think of Boston culture, of Harvard College, of Garrison and Phillips, of Emerson and Parker, and wonder whether they rest easily in their graves if they hear of what the successors of Charles Sumner have done.

To appreciate fully what they have done, we must recall our rejoicings over the action of the Bar Association in Maynard's case. We must remember how much the Bar Association had been reproached for its cowardice in dealing with forensic and judicial corruption. We must remember with what surprise and delight the public hailed the formation of a committee of its foremost men of both parties to examine the charges against Maynard, and the still greater surprise and delight with which they read the sweeping condemnation that this committee unanimously passed on Maynard's practices. We do not believe we exaggerate when we say that it caused a widespread feeling that a new force had appeared in our politics, and had appeared on the side of purity and order. Our leading lawyers seemed to have recovered their courage and their interest in public affairs, and to have placed them at the service of the state.

And, lastly, we must remember that what Hill was trying to do, and what they were largely instrumental in preventing his doing, was something for which we think the history of modern civilized states has no parallel. He was trying to put into the court of last resort of a great community a man fresh from the commission of a gross fraud, which he attempted neither to palliate nor to deny. For that offence Hill has never expressed the smallest regret. On the contrary, he has made no secret of his intention to use his office in the Senate to punish every man who had helped to foil him, and especially "the namby-pamby fellows," as he called them, of the Bar Association, who had convicted Maynard. It was for this reason he fought against the confirmation of Hornblower, who was one of them, and against that of Peckham, who was another of them. To vote with him on either of these occasions was, therefore, to strengthen his power for evil both in Washington and in New York, to furnish him with fresh weapons for the destruction of honest and patriotic men.

But it was something far worse than this. It was, coming from Republicans, and especially from Massachusetts Republicans, a direct and mortifying discouragement to every respectable man, and especially to every respectable lawyer, who, all business and excuses being laid aside, comes forward in troublous times to save or help the state. What a spectacle it was for the young men of the country to see twenty-four Republican Senators, headed by Hoar and Lodge, ranged beside Hill to discredit Peckham for having rendered a great public service. It is not too much to say, as Wendell Phillips said of the man who defended the Alton riots, that it would have served them right if the "earth had yawned and swallowed them up."

THE SECRET OF PLATT.

THE following comes to us from a member of the Harvard Law School, and is a sample of queries from other quarters:

"Can you tell me through your paper (1) just how Platt gained his power in the Republican party; (2) how he has recovered it after rebuffs; and (3) how he is able to hold it now?"

(1.) Platt had not figured as a party leader when he first came into public prominence by being elected to the United States Senate in January, 1881. He had been a quiet worker for the party for many years, content to serve under the leadership of Cornell and Conkling, carrying out their orders with indefatigable zeal, and running to and fro over the State on their political errands. He thus acquired a personal acquaintance with the politicians of the party which was of great value to him when Mr. Conkling decided to make him his "Me Too" in the United States Senate. His candidacy for that position was not regarded seriously when first disclosed, but as the canvass proceeded the peculiar elements of his strength began to appear. He had been a disbursing agent of offices for Cornell, who became Governor in 1880, and the *Tribune*, in analyzing his support for Senator, said on January 3, 1881, that "Mr. Platt is thought to have derived much strength from his influence with Gov. Cornell in the appointments of last winter of health officer, etc." Being himself Chairman of the Republican State Committee, he had the whole power of the Conkling machine

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working in his favor, including the Cornell administration, and on January 12, 1881, the *Tribune*, in its Albany correspondence, said that, "counting State officers of all grades, high and low, with their deputies, assistants, and clerks, there were 100 workers for Mr. Platt" about the Legislature. On the following day he was nominated in the Republican caucus, and the *Tribune*, in explaining his success, said on January 14: "If a distinctive representative of the machine was to be chosen, then, doubtless, this is the best result attainable. . . . He owes his nomination to the warm friendship felt among Republicans, in almost every county of the interior, for the man whom they have long known as one of the most active and effective working Republicans of the State."

Having thus gained a seat in the Senate as a machine man, pure and simple, he distinguished himself during the two months in which he was a member by his servile subjection to Conkling. He resigned as Senator on May 16, literally amid the ridicule of the whole country. He had little to do in the Blaine campaign of 1884, but in the following year he, in conjunction with the editor of the *Tribune*, used his power over the State Republican machine to "knife" Davenport, the Republican candidate for Governor, and allow Hill to be elected.

(2.) His recovery of power dates from this election of Hill. He at once began to "deal" with Hill; and with the patronage thus secured, combined with that of the Quarantine and Health Office of the port of New York, which he controlled by virtue of Gov. Cornell's appointment of himself and some of his cronies for commissioners, he was able to regain his hold upon the party organization. There was not a great deal of Republican patronage to be had, but all that there was came through him. He held over as quarantine commissioner, and his associates held over with him, because he controlled the State Senate and would not allow appointees for the succession to be confirmed. His great opportunity came in the campaign of 1888, when, in the famous words of the *Tribune*, he was able to sell to Mr. Hill the Governorship of New York in return for the Presidency for Mr. Harrison. If we had not the *Tribune's* high authority for saying that this sale was made, President Harrison's conduct after taking office would of itself be ample proof. He turned the whole federal patronage for New York over to Mr. Platt for disbursement, not giving a particle to Warner Miller or any other of the anti-Platt elements of the party. With this wealth of political "pap" at his command, he had no difficulty in completely establishing himself as the boss of the Republican party of New York.

(3.) He is able to retain his power now because of the habit which the politicians of the party have got into of looking to him for direction, and because all of them who are in office owe their nomination and election to him. He is the only man in the party who has made it his business for years, day in and day out, to control its affairs. His personal acquaintance with its politicians in all sections of the State, studiously cultivated for nearly or quite a quarter of a century, is paralleled by that of no other Republican. He meets them all as a personal friend, tells them all that is going on, and from time to time gives them nominations for office, or a bit of patronage, or a promise of favors to come if they work hard for the party and "keep in line." He knows a great deal more about men and affairs than they do, and they get into the way of following his direction without question. He always has power enough over primaries and conventions to "turn down" a politician who is not so docile as he should be, and in this way it has come to be known that no man can get a nomination for office unless he has the boss's favor.

It is because of this power that he is able to control the Legislature and its organization. Every aspirant for Speaker or other position, who wishes to advance to a nomination for Governor or other State office, knows that unless he submits to Platt's wishes, and puts on what is known as the "Platt collar," he is certain to be defeated. He will not only fail to get the Speakership, but he will fail to get a nomination for any office whatever in the future. The boss will "give the word" that some other man is to have the coveted place, and the fractious aspirant's political future will be ruined. Strict discipline of this kind, known as "pulling straight," is recognized as the fundamental principle of all machine government, and it is as rigorously observed in the Platt machine as in Tammany Hall.

The chief result of this system is to exclude from the machine all men of character and force above the average. There is no place in a machine for a man of independent views, high purpose, and moral courage. He is "turned down" at the first symptom of disobedience, and the entire machine acquiesces in his fate. Membership in the machine being thus confined to men of inferior ability and low or dull ideas of politics and public duty, it is a comparatively easy matter for a man like Platt to maintain his boss-ship. He never allows a member of the party of first-rate ability and high character to get a nomination for office except in cases in which there is no apparent prospect of an election. He never distributes any patronage to such a member, but gives office and patronage alike to the men who follow his orders.

Above and beyond all, he devotes himself all the time to the business of bossing. It is the absorbing passion of his life, partly because his taste lies strongly in that direction, partly because he enjoys the power which the position gives him, and partly because it is the one thing which makes him a public character and insures consideration of himself and his doings in the newspapers. As an ordinary man of business he would attract no attention whatever, and as a statesman no attention except that of contempt. He has chosen the rôle which best suits his talents, and he will play it successfully until his party so deeply realizes the disgrace of his self-imposed leadership that it will rise in a body and throw it off. This cannot be done by a few men giving a few weeks' thought to the matter now and then. They must work, as he does, the year round, and not let go for a moment.

BEAUTIES OF THE INCOME-TAX LAW.

NEARLY all the discussion of the income tax in Congress and in the press has turned upon the general principle of that measure, and comparatively little attention has been given to the actual details of the bill as it passed the House. An examination of its text, however, shows that it is drawn with extraordinary looseness, one section often invalidating another, and that it invites at every turn evasion and false swearing and bribery and intolerable espionage.

The first section declares that the tax is to be collected from "any citizen of the United States residing abroad" on his income "derived from any kind of property, rents, interest, etc., or from any profession, trade, employment or vocation carried on in the United States *or elsewhere.*" According to this our deputy collectors would have to run over to Hawaii and make our planter fellow-citizens there help support the Government whose protection they claim while upsetting their own. But when we read on and come to section 58, we find that cheerful prospect dashed by the provision that non-residents shall "only pay on that part of the income which is derived from any source *in the United States.*" Another fine muddle is to be found in the provisions for deducting certain items in reckoning income. All local taxes may be deducted, as also "all interest actually due and paid within the year on existing indebtedness." Yet in section 62 it is made the duty, under heavy penalties, of "every corporation which pays to any employee a salary or compensation exceeding $4,000 per annum" to "report the same to the deputy collector of his district and *pay the tax*, . . . and such payment shall be charged against the amount due such employee." But suppose such employee is entitled to deductions actually bringing his income below $4,000? There is the order to the corporation to pay his tax irrespective of any such consideration. Parallel with this is the tax which corporations are to

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pay upon "dividends, interest, coupons," etc., in such a way that a widow with an income of only $1,000 from bonds would practically be taxed despite the evident intent of the law to exempt her.

But it is in its constant use of undefined terms that the law opens the widest door for abuses. Tremendous latitude is given to the judgment of the collector. He is to reckon-in interest due any taxpayer "whether paid or not," provided he considers it "good and collectible." He is to reckon-in a person's share of dividends in any corporation, "whether divided or otherwise." He may increase the amount of any man's return "if he has reason to believe that the same is understated," and may make up a list of any individual's income "according to the best information he can obtain." If a taxpayer feels aggrieved, he has a right to make oath and give evidence as to his real income, "but such oath and evidence shall not be considered as conclusive of the facts," and the decision of the collector of the district, "unless reversed by the commissioner of internal revenue, shall be *final*."

Similar ambiguity is seen in the description of the deductions which may be made from income in making out a return. "Necessary expenses" in carrying on business may come out, but who is to decide what they are? So may "losses incurred in trade," but who is to determine what they may have been? So may "debts ascertained to be worthless," but ascertained by whom? These are only a few of the temptations and opportunities set before a lax conscience all through the bill, and of the uncertainties which would bewilder the most honest of men in making their return.

But the most offensive and dangerous features of the law are those which give inquisitorial powers to the deputy collectors. They can compel a merchant to submit his "books and accounts" to them at any time, and to disclose "any other evidence" of his income which may occur to them. The hatefulness of this may be fairly inferred from a single paragraph, which amends section 3172 of the Revised Statutes so as to make it read:

> "Every collector shall, from time to time, cause his deputies to proceed through every part of his district and inquire after and concerning all persons therein who are liable to pay any internal-revenue tax, and all persons owning or having the care of any objects liable to pay any tax, and to make a list of such persons and enumerate said objects."

Now who are, and are apt to be, deputy collectors? Are they the angels who alone could administer such a law without making it oppressive, and a source of endless blackmail and bribery and political corruption? Unfortunately, we know that, under our wise political system, they are men who would hail such an opportunity to make themselves a political power and to grow rich in a single term of office, with as much avidity and delight as a Tammany police captain. We should promptly have our "*tenderloin*" income-tax districts, just as we now have our police districts, and the "protection" money which would be within reach of the deputy collectors would make a police captain green with envy.

THE ALBERT MOORE EXHIBITION.

LONDON, January 20, 1894.

MANY recent events have again called special attention to the Royal Academy and its methods. The election of no less than five new associates was a matter predestined to invite criticism. The choice of two really good men was so welcome a novelty that the Academy might well have been congratulated, had the remaining three been chosen with a shadow of the same discretion. It is long since painters of such distinction as Mr. Sargent and Mr. Swan have been counted among associates. Indeed, it seems difficult to understand why they have been elected, when equal honors have been lavished upon Mr. Arthur Hacker, a painter of great pretension but small accomplishment, and Mr. Frank Bramley, who uses a technical ability far above the academical level to paint anecdotes in strict accordance with the academical spirit. Mr. Frampton, the fifth, is, to be sure, a young sculptor of promise. But the claims of the architect and engraver, above all of the water-colorist and the illustrator, were much more pressing. Whether Mr. Sargent and Mr. Swan will be able to influence the Academy for good, or whether they, like many others, will be influenced by it for evil, remains to be seen. In the meantime, it is interesting, just at the present moment, to consider the work of an Englishman who died but lately, and whose neglect by the Academy has so often been made a reproach against it. I mean Albert Moore, a collection of whose pictures and studies forms one of the chief attractions at the winter show of the Grafton Gallery, opened to-day.

This gallery is doing good work in London. As I have pointed out before, already in the one short year of its existence it has introduced many of the most distinguished Continental artists to the bewildered Londoner—artists varying so entirely in methods as Khnopff and J. Maris, as Von Uhde and Aman-Jean, as Raffaëlli and Alfred Stevens. It has appreciated Mr. Whistler and understood the advantage of securing him among its exhibitors. It has encouraged the Glasgow men, who, for many years, were homeless in London. Mistakes it has made, perhaps; mediocrity it has not wholly forsworn. But, on the whole, its aims are in the right direction, and it has done excellent service in the cause of art. Of this winter's general show, fine as it is, I will say nothing. For, in the first place, I want to speak more in detail of the Albert Moore collection, which hangs in a room apart, and, in the second, many of the foreign canvases have been seen before in the Champ de Mars, while the Glasgow men do not make nearly so impressive a showing as they did a year ago. The notable new work comes from Mr. Whistler, who contributes three exquisite marines, studies in dark blue and silver and violet and silver, the harmony carried out with consummate knowledge and subtle refinement, the effect suggested with the breadth and simplicity which give to his work, as to that of all the greatest masters, its dignity and serenity.

To turn from Mr. Whistler to Albert Moore is, I think, to understand better the measure of the latter's accomplishment. Hitherto his canvases have seldom been seen save at Burlington House, where they invariably stood out in prominent relief from the artless trivialities surrounding them. In them was none of the striving to emulate the camera in accuracy of superfluous detail, which is the stumbling block of the Newlynite; none of the desire to tell pretty anecdotes of short-waisted maidens and bewigged and beruffled men, the chief ambition of the Academician; no pretence of strange and hidden meanings, nor parade of effete symbols, after the fashion of the little group who ape the Primitives. In a word, in his pictures was none of that tedious quality which critics (who love it for the sake of the "copy" it yields) call "literary." Not one but was concerned solely with some artistic problem of color or arrangement. His low-browed, full-throated women he used as the Greeks did their beautiful youths, as Titian did his luxuriant golden beauties; that is, as a fine motive for decorative schemes. With color and line he experimented, as a poet plays with words and rhythms. It was because his work was solely and entirely artistic in intention that it could assert itself so well on walls where art is all but an unknown quality.

However, now that his pictures and studies are brought together, now that they must stand the test of comparison with the modern masterpieces that hang in near rooms, their shortcomings are no less evident than their merits. Albert Moore was not an accomplished draughtsman; he had no great technical skill. His small studies (in chalk on brown paper) of the nude reveal the feebleness of his drawing; it is strange that a man who for ever sought the beautiful in the female figure could, when draperies were thrown aside, draw it so ill, giving straight, clumsy lines for the lovely curves that delight in a Venus by Velasquez or Titian. Again, in his painting of the nude, his difficulty in rendering flesh is but too apparent. His drapery helped to disguise his most serious defects, and yet it is astonishing how little variety he gave to the arrangement of its folds and flowing lines. There is striking monotony in his many compositions. Indeed, the most obvious truth proved by the present collection is that he failed far oftener than he succeeded. For him, apparently, it was easier to find his problem than its solution. How much he was concerned with decorative schemes—the one legitimate end of art—is shown in the fact that they preoccupied him even at the outset of his career, before he had discovered his low-browed model, when he painted in a very different key of color. Among the larger canvases is one called "Elijah's Sacrifice," probably belonging to a very early date, as sombre and brown as an ill-used Old Master, with something Blake-like in its conception; and here already, in a group of brawny men kneeling with heads bowed low, is expressed the same decorative feeling which inspired him in the grouping of the four fair women of "A Summer's Night," now the property of the corporation of Liverpool. But though from the beginning his motives were ever to be commended, these at times could lead to discord of color and incoherence of composition—a fact most pronounced in his very last canvas, never before exhibited, "The Loves of the Winds and the Seasons," which is one of the largest he ever attempted and one of the least successful, since in it is not even the suggestion of a well-balanced scheme of decoration. When he did succeed, however, he produced harmo-

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nies at once stately and satisfactory. There is one upright panel, "Canaries," the usual tall woman in the long, clinging draperies, in which pale yellows and whites are used to produce as fine and exquisite an effect as eye could desire; and another, "Jasmine," where deep rose and carnation are wrought into a rich and splendid symphony. These represent him at his best, but, unfortunately, their contrast with his lesser achievements reminds one that he was quite as apt to show himself at his worst.

Indeed, when all is said, it is in his small studies and sketches for pictures that his most perfect accomplishment is to be found. Many of these are very lovely notes and impressions of color: at least one, "King Cups," with its blossom-strewn grass, has in it something of the grace and delicacy that enchant in a good Botticelli. But, to the sustained effort of working out his invariably fine motive on a large scale he was not always equal. It is often regretted that he had not the chance to decorate great wall spaces—the chance enjoyed by Puvis de Chavannes and Besnard in France. The only work of the kind which he ever did was in the Queen's Theatre, Long Acres, since burnt down, so that no proof of his powers remains. But careful study of the present collection makes one doubt whether he really had the necessary qualifications for so ambitious and extended an undertaking. In almost every case his single figures are more effective than his groups, his studies than his finished pictures. He was an artist keenly sensitive to the poetry of paint, but with no great technical facility in expressing it. In harmony of tints, in loveliness of line, he delighted, but not always could he embody this delight on canvas. Infinitely the superior of the average Academician (to whom his exclusion from the Academy must ever remain a disgrace), he is still hardly to be ranked with the Whistlers of modern art. N. N.

BARDOUX'S MADAME DE CUSTINE.

PARIS, February 2, 1894.

M. BARDOUX has given himself up to the study of society at the end of the eighteenth century. He has written books on the early life of Lafayette, on M. de Montlosier, on the Countess Pauline de Beaumont, famous for the affection which she entertained for Chateaubriand. In this period, the end of the last and the beginning of the nineteenth century, tragedy sometimes comes in contact with idyl; the French Revolution disturbs everything, and the field of observation becomes excessively varied. After Pauline de Beaumont, there is no more original or finished type of the feminine aristocracy of the end of the eighteenth century than Mme. de Custine, who has been chosen by M. Bardoux as the central figure of one of his studies. She, too, was one of the worshippers of Chateaubriand, and has her place near Mme. Récamier in the feminine circle which surrounds the memory of the melancholy "René."

No biography is published nowadays without a portrait, and it must be confessed that in the case of Mme. de Custine the attraction thus produced is immediate. She is represented with powdered hair, arranged like that of Marie Antoinette or of Mme. de Lamballe in the portraits of the time, with large and beautiful eyes, an exquisite face, a thin muslin thrown over her shoulders. The general effect is extremely striking, and the portrait does much credit not only to the model, but also to the painter, Campana. Louise Eléonore Mélanie Delphine de Sabran was born in Paris, March 18, 1770. The name of her mother, Mme. de Sabran, is well known; I have spoken in your columns of her correspondence, of her long affection for the Chevalier de Boufflers. Mme. de Sabran lost her husband at the time of the coronation of Louis XVI.; she was left a widow of twenty, with two young children, Delphine and Elzéar. Delphine was married at the age of seventeen to the son of the Comte de Custin, Maréchal de Camp, Governor of Toulon and of Dieuze in Lorraine. Her husband was only nineteen years of age. After the wedding breakfast all went down into the garden, where a crowd of shepherds and shepherdesses came to compliment the bride. Each sang a little song. The ball was then opened by General de Custine and Mme. de Sabran; then came a great repast. The festivities lasted a whole week. These were the days of "sensibility," the days of J. J. Rousseau. During one of the fêtes the young people found in a cave (a pretended cave) Philemon and Baucis, representing conjugal fidelity and felicity.

These happy days were not to last long; the Revolution was preparing while young Custine was taking his wife to his regiment. They had a son, Astolphe, and, as a true disciple of Rousseau, Delphine would nurse it. The Comte de Custine was elected a member of the States-General when they were summoned by the King; the nobility of the bailliage of Metz remembered that he had commanded the regiment of Saintonge infantry in the American war and had distinguished himself before Yorktown. Boufflers was also elected, but he soon became discouraged and emigrated, at the instance of Mme. de Sabran, who had not been slow in following her friends the Polignacs. The two Custines remained in France, and Delphine with her husband. Her father-in-law had ranged himself among the most ardent Constitutionalists, and had taken a great part in the organization of the national guards. His son was in the army of Lückner; he himself received a high command on the frontier, but was soon denounced and arrested. Delphine, who was living quietly in a village in Normandy, returned to Paris, and visited her father-in-law several times in his prison. Custine was condemned by the Revolutionary tribunal and executed on September 4, 1793.

After the father, the son was imprisoned, merely because he had written a defence of his father. Delphine tried in vain to save him; he was executed on January 4, 1794. She found herself a widow, at the age of twenty-three, and no wonder that she resolved to leave France and to join in Berlin the Comtesse de Sabran and her brother Elzéar. She was arrested in the midst of her preparations, and thrown into the Carmelite prison, where she found many of her acquaintances, Mme. Charles de Lameth, Mme. d'Aiguillon, Mme. de Jarnac, Josephine de Beauharnais, who was to become the wife of Napoleon. There too was Mrs. Elliott, the friend of the Duke of Orleans, who has left us such curious Memoirs. She says, in these Memoirs, that Mme. de Custine and her husband were arrested at the same time and were in prison together, and that she never saw anything so touching as their separation, when he was taken to the guillotine. "I thought for a moment that Mme. de Custine would break her head against the walls. Mme. de Beauharnais and myself did not leave her for a moment for three days and three nights; but she was young, full of imagination; she was French, and, after six weeks, she had recovered her courage."

Mrs. Elliott also was evidently a woman of imagination, as M. de Custine was arrested before his wife and was not in the same prison. It is true that they were allowed to see each other the day before his execution, but their meeting did not take place at the prison where Mrs. Elliott was, but at the Conciergerie. Shall we believe Mrs. Elliott when she tells us that M. de Beauharnais and Mme. de Custine were in love with each other? The attentions which Beauharnais paid to "that charming little Mme. de Custine" were, at any rate, soon interrupted, as Beauharnais was sent to the guillotine. Josephine had never been on very good terms with her husband, and had, in fact, been separated from him for several years when she found him again in prison. "Her husband," says Mrs. Elliott, "had never shown her any attentions. As for the other lady [Mme. de Custine], she never smiled again after the death of Beauharnais." This would lead us to think that Delphine had really a great passion for Beauharnais, but we must take with some grains of allowance what Mrs. Elliott says of French ladies.

The 9th Thermidor saved Mme. de Custine; she left the Carmelite prison with Mme. de Beauharnais, Mme. d'Aiguillon, and Mme. de Lameth. She had great difficulty in recovering a part of her property; she was fortunately helped, in this endeavor, by Boissy-d'Anglas and by Fouché, who were both probably influenced by her great beauty. Fouché was no longer the terrible Terrorist who had destroyed the rebel city of Lyons; he was already minister of police and in relations with the future wife of Napoleon. Everything around Delphine was changed. She was very anxious to bring back to France her mother, Mme. de Sabran, who had become Mme. de Boufflers; but Boufflers was on the list of the émigrés. When Josephine became the wife of Napoleon, she used her influence in favor of Mme. de Custine, and Boufflers was struck off the list; he came back to France with his wife, no longer the brilliant colonel of old times, but happy to accept the modest functions of assistant librarian at the Mazarine Library.

In 1803, Mme. de Custine made the acquaintance of Chateaubriand, who had just published his 'Génie du Christianisme' and accepted the place of secretary to the French embassy at Rome. Chateaubriand says in his memoirs that he was anxious to go to Rome on account of Mme. de Beaumont, who was in a consumption. "The daughter of M. de Montmorin was dying; the climate of Italy was thought favorable for her. If I went to Rome, she would consent to cross the Alps; I sacrificed myself in the hope of saving her." In reality, he wished to have a reason for separating himself from his own wife, and his passion for Mme. de Beaumont was not so great that he could not make love to Mme. de Custine. He says but little of her in his Memoirs. With the remainder of her fortune, she had bought in Normandy, near Lisieux, the château of Fervacques (where Henri IV. once spent a few days). "I was invited," he says, "to the châteaus which were reopening. Among the bees which composed their hive was the Marchioness of Custine, who had inherited the long hair of Margaret of Provence, the wife of Saint Louis, whose blood relation she was. I saw her entrance into Fervacques, and I had the honor of sleeping in the bed of the Béarnais." M. Bardoux gives us some letters written by Chateaubriand to the lady of Fervacques, before his departure for Rome. His passion for her was of short duration, and he

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concealed it carefully from Mme. de Beaumont and from all his friends.

The relations of Mme. de Custine with the famous Fouché will be to most readers more interesting than what M. Bardoux has to say about Chateaubriand. The great writer has told us all we care to know about himself; the 'Mémoires d'Outre-Tombe' have made us familiar with all Chateaubriand's circle. Mme. de Custine was among the open enemies of the imperial régime, but Fouché had always covered her with his protection. She left France during the first invasion, and returned at the moment when Fouché, arriving from Illyria, whither Napoleon had sent him, entered into communication with the Bourbons. Bardoux gives us several letters from Fouché to Mme. de Custine, written from Ferrières, which was Fouché's country-place; they show a great degree of intimacy and make us acquainted with a Fouché very different from the terrible historical prefect of police. Fouché understands at once the danger when Napoleon comes from the island of Elba; he sees that everything depends upon the army. "I confess I fear the blindness of the soldiers; if our people are not careful, they will decide the question against us." Fouché, it would result from these letters, did not conspire with Napoleon at the time; this did not prevent his accepting from him the post of minister of police when Napoleon reoccupied the Tuileries. "I like the *positive* in politics as well as in affection" (letter to Mme. de Custine of March 10, 1815). This declaration is rather suggestive, and was made at the moment when Napoleon entered Lyons.

Fouché said of Napoleon: "He is come back from Elba madder than before he went there; he has only three months before him." He kept up his relations with the Royalists, and Mme. de Custine was one of his many ambassadors. Fouché became one of the principal actors in the second Restoration. When Louis XVIII. came back to Paris between Talleyrand and Fouché, Pozzo di Borgo said: "I should very much like to hear what these lambs have to say." If one of our modern historians should care to write a biography of Fouché, he would find useful documents in this volume of M. Bardoux's.

The correspondence with Mme. de Custine continued a little while after Fouché was obliged to leave France. He tells her in his letters that he is writing his memoirs. (These memoirs were published, and are now very rare.) Mme. de Custine died at the age of fifty-six at Bex in Vaud. Chateaubriand was with her at the moment of her death. "I saw," he wrote in his memoirs, "the woman who had faced the guillotine with the greatest courage, whiter than death, in black, emaciated, her head adorned only with her silken hair, smile at me with her pale lips and her pearly teeth. . . . I heard her coffin go through the solitary streets of Lausanne during the night to pass to its eternal resting-place at Fervacques."

Correspondence.

MUNICIPAL REFORM THROUGH POPULAR NOMINATION.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Among the suggestions for municipal reform which have followed upon the Philadelphia meeting, I notice that especial attention has been called to the prime necessity for first arousing public spirit or patriotism for good city government. Through my connection with a number of local efforts at municipal economy which have been fairly successful, the conviction has forced itself upon me that it will prove hopeless to attempt to arouse an active and continuously effective public spirit by the old methods. If we are to have a real and enduring reform, the stream must be purified at the source in the *nominating* system. The caucus system is a failure, and must be wholly abandoned. It is corrupt and will always be corrupt. Here in Ohio we have the Baber Law, and use it at times in both parties; and while it makes an orderly procedure of the nominating, conducting it after the manner of an ordinary election, it is often a more complete tool of the political machine than the packed or haphazard caucus. If a method could be put in practice which would protect the voter in the independence of his nominating vote as it protects him here in his electing vote (through the Australian ballot), the foundation for better government in our American cities would be laid. It comes too late when he is given a secret ballot only at the polls, with a choice merely between two corrupt nominees.

It has been suggested that the first step toward permanent reform lies in the separation of municipal from State and national elections, exerting as these do a powerful partisan influence over municipal selections. Upon this groundwork I would suggest the following plan for making nominations, the form of which is somewhat similar to the London system for the nomination of members of its County Council, by which, as is well known, the very best results are attained in the formation of a governing body. Briefly stated it is as follows: Let the date for the closing of the registration be fixed at least forty days prior to the day of election; and upon receipt of the registration books let the Board of Elections issue to each registered voter an official nominating form, having printed upon it the title of the office necessary to be filled at the approaching election. Space should be allowed on these forms for the voter to write the names he desires to have balloted upon, which should be three for each ward officer and five for each general city or county officer, from the mayor down. These ticket forms should be accompanied by a stamped and printed envelope for return to the Board of Elections, and be numbered consecutively so as to prevent any cut-and-dried imitation being substituted by the political machine of either party.

These tickets, properly filled, should be returned so as to reach the Board of Elections not later than twenty days prior to the day of election. They should then be tabulated, and the three names found to have received the highest number of votes for the ward offices, and the five receiving the highest number for the general city or county offices, should be officially declared the nominees. The question of a provision for withdrawals comes in here, and could be readily met by the substitution of the next in number of votes; but the law ought to contain a provision compelling the nominees for the Common Council at least to stand for election.

It would seem wholly advisable that this official ticket should not be made public until ten days prior to election, to reduce to a minimum the opportunity for setting up a successful political combination of any kind.

Under such a system, the voter, making up his ticket in the privacy of his home or his office, would be entirely free and untrammelled in his choice of men, and find a new liberty which he would gladly welcome. Many would take an especial pride in naming an ideal ticket. Every man, no matter what his station, being more or less jealous of his independence (even to those who sell their vote and then vote as they please), would welcome the opportunity thus offered. The abuses of the caucus, with its browbeating and over-riding, would be wholly escaped and a thing of the past. The better element in the community, which now takes little or no part in the nominating, would again take an active part and would predominate in influence and numbers, as they do in most communities whenever thoroughly aroused by some stirring public need.

To all, I believe, such an opportunity for independent choice would appeal with unusual and salutary effect. From its nature non-political, through it party lines could be made to absolutely disappear in municipal affairs, and an avenue of escape be found from the power which is debauching the public service of our American cities.

S. P. Jermain,
Chairman Municipal Committee.

Chamber of Commerce,
Toledo, O., February 15, 1894.

A PRECEDENT FOR THE GEARY ACT.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: In an unpublished opinion by Judge Sprague, delivered in June, 1851, in the United States District Court for Massachusetts, in the case of James Scott, who was accused of assisting in the rescue of the fugitive slave Shadrach, I find the following quotation of an act passed by Massachusetts, March 26, 1788, after the ratification of the Federal Constitution by that State. It will be seen that it is a precedent for the Geary act in two respects: (1) in expelling from the State all colored persons with certain exceptions; (2) in requiring an official certificate to prove that any particular colored person was within the exceptions:

"Section 6. Be it further enacted, &c. That no person being an African or negro, other than a subject of the Emperor of Morocco, or a citizen of some one of the United States (to be evidenced by a certificate from the Secretary of the State of which he shall be a citizen) shall tarry within this Commonwealth for a longer time than two months; and upon complaint made to any Justice of the Peace within this Commonwealth, that any such person has been within the same more than two months, the said Justice shall order the said person to depart out of this Commonwealth; and in case that the said African or negro shall not depart, as aforesaid, any Justice of the Peace within this Commonwealth, upon complaint and proof made that such person has continued within the Commonwealth ten days after notice given him or her to depart as aforesaid, shall commit the said person to any house of correction within the county, there to be kept to hard labor agreeably to the rules and orders of the said house, until the Sessions of the Peace, next to be holden within and for the said county; and the master of the said house of correction is hereby required and directed to transmit an attested copy of the warrant of commitment to the said Court on the first day of their said session; and if, upon trial at the said Court, it shall be made to appear that the said person has thus continued within the Commonwealth contrary to the tenor of this act, he or she shall be whipped, not exceeding ten stripes, and ordered to depart out of this Commonwealth within ten days; and if he or she shall not so depart, the same process shall be had and punishment inflicted, and so toties quoties."

Philip Patterson Wells.

New Haven, February 12, 1894.

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CROMWELL'S DESCENDANTS.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: At the risk of continuing a protracted discussion, I would call your attention to page 34 of 'Oliver Cromwell,' by Frederic Harrison (Macmillan, 1888), in the "English Statesmen" Series, where it is stated that the following distinguished persons, among others, are descended from Cromwell: "Marquis of Ripon, Earls of Chichester, Morley, Clarendon, Cowper, heir presumptive to the earldom of Derby, Lord Ampthill, Lord Walsingham, . . . Sir John Lubbock, . . . the late Sir George Cornewall Lewis." "During the present century at least seven persons descended from the Protector have held office under the Crown, including one prime minister, Lord Goderich; one foreign secretary, Lord Clarendon; two lords lieutenant of Ireland, and a viceroy of India." "The following married descendants of Cromwell: the Earls of Darnley, Lytton, Lathom, Lord Stanley of Preston, Sir W. Harcourt, M. P., Sir A. Bostwick, M. P., Mr. Samuel Whitbread, M. P."

Mr. Harrison doubtless writes with competent authority. He notes these facts as a curious example of the persistence of the English ruling families and of their close intermarriage.

Yours, etc., C. K. Williams.

Sioux City, Iowa, February 10, 1894.

WOMEN AT THE GERMAN UNIVERSITIES.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: The letter in your last number regarding "Women at the German Universities" will probably call forth others. Perhaps a few more words upon this subject may not come amiss.

To my knowledge, a studious woman *was* admitted to lectures (on anatomy, I think) in Leipzig; and when male students made audible protest, the professor gave them a most unexpected lecture on manners, and unqualified praise of a brave woman's work in medicine, much to the gratification of a young American student present, who, a little later, related the facts to us at supper.

University instructors in Germany have been so kind and helpful to lady students that few will forget it who have been recipients of such favors, by no means rare; and this kindness brought sometimes quite trying results. For instance, at Leipzig it became known that certain lectures were opened to ladies, not officially, but by permission of the instructor; to these quite a number of ladies came who had no such permit, who could not understand German, much less the subject treated, who came simply "to learn German," "to see what it was like," etc. These ladies sometimes talk in loud voices before the lecture begins, causing every one to turn around to look at them, whisper during the lecture, observe folks and things going on in the street, and otherwise disturb the delightful quiet of the place. Of course these ladies were suffered to remain; yet this abuse did close to women one lecture-room at Leipzig which had been opened to them before.

A young girl, pretty or not, going in and out of university halls and lecture-rooms which for centuries have been occupied by men alone, when she is very self-conscious, trying evidently "not to mind," *is* out of place; and the fact that many come unchaperoned, which they certainly would not do in such places at home, unless they had officially their place in such work, makes the matter worse. Nice young American girls, even while they are attending university lectures, often feel this to the quick, as I more than once had occasion to observe when such girls responded to an older lady's kindly word with "Please do let me sit beside you, it is so hard to be here alone." When asked why they had come thus, the answer always was: "I thought I ought to come, and had no one to come with me."

Many instructors are not averse to having woman students, and are ready to help open university doors to them, but do demand gravely and decidedly that such students come with at least the same preparatory knowledge which is expected of the men, and insist that quiet, thoughtful work is essential, as well as that reserve which every well-bred girl and woman has when among strangers. The manner with which the American woman accepts such permissions—enters such open doors—and her work while there, will open or close German university courses to women, at least from foreign lands, and may greatly hinder the needed admittance of German women, which sooner or later is sure to come. M. F. K.

Northampton, Mass., February 16, 1894.

Notes.

D. Appleton & Co. have in press the late Wolcott Balestier's 'Benefits Forgot,' and a translation of Ebers's latest novel, 'Cleopatra.' They announce the approach to completion of Edgar Stanton Maclay's 'History of the United States Navy,' which will be brought down to the present year.

Harper & Bros. have nearly ready 'Our English Cousins,' by Richard Harding Davis.

Next month T. Y. Crowell & Co. will bring out 'The Englishman at Home: His Responsibilities and Privileges,' a detailed account of the English political system, by Edward Porritt.

In April the Century Co. will publish 'Roger Williams, the Pioneer of Religious Liberty,' by Oscar S. Straus.

Houghton, Mifflin & Co. have taken over from the Century Co. the four-volume Life of William Lloyd Garrison by his children, and will soon offer it with their imprint at a substantial reduction in price.

There is nothing to indicate the beginning of a series in the title-page to 'Officers of the Army and Navy (Regular and Volunteer) Who Served in the Civil War' (Philadelphia: L. R. Hamersly & Co.), a handsome quarto volume consisting entirely of portraits, with an index. The incompleteness of this gallery, embracing 858 portraits, is obvious at a glance, and, as one turns the pages, he finds sifted in several war governors, cabinet officers, Vice-President Hamlin, and even Jay Cooke. Still, this is undeniably an interesting collection, and all the more because some of the characters in it have acquired greater distinction in their civil capacity—not always to their lasting credit. The likenesses are not all from life, though by far the great majority are, and many have a unique value. Particularly striking are those of Lincoln, Banks, Garfield, and Kit Carson, and admirably caught is that of the late Gen. Armstrong of Hampton.

We have on our table the sixty-sixth bound volume of the *Youth's Companion*, least lovely in appearance of all the most successful periodicals for the young, but really a mixed weekly journal, addressing itself to "the family" generally, and hence embracing contributions from well-known writers for grown folks. The illustrations are below the level of those of *St. Nicholas* or *Harper's Young People*. The publishers are Perry Mason & Co., Boston.

From Messrs. Harper come two more volumes of their *Monthly Magazine*, Nos. 86, 87, the 37th of their *Weekly*, and the 26th of their *Bazar*. The *Monthly* we have taken note of in its current issues. Bound up, it has a commemorative aspect in its articles on George William Curtis, Lowell, and Whittier, as well as in the novel, "Horace Chase," from the pen of the now deceased Constance Fenimore Woolson. From it, too, have emerged at least three books, the novel just mentioned, Mr. Platt's 'Italian Gardens,' and Col. Dodge's 'Riders of Many Lands.' The Columbian Exposition naturally dominates the *Weekly* for 1893; but some attention is given also to Hawaii, to Brazil and its revolution, to yachts and naval vessels, and to the general life of this metropolis. The list of portraits is, as usual, long and valuable. As liberal a supply of what are called "comics" is observable in the *Bazar* as in the *Weekly*, and a much greater allowance of prints from recent paintings. The specimen gown from Worth in each number is displayed on a flesh-and-blood figure, in agreeable contrast to the old-fashioned plates. Both in letterpress and in illustrations there are few echoes from the world at large, with which, however, Mr. T. W. Higginson still furnishes a channel of communication in his "Women and Men" papers.

Mr. H. T. Folkard, librarian of the Wigan (Eng.) Free Public Library, sends us a copy of his index catalogue of books and papers on mining, metallurgy, and manufactures (1880), which he wishes to enlarge into a general bibliography of these subjects in a new edition of the same, and asks the coöperation of some half-a-dozen persons who would agree to send him slips in return for a copy of the catalogue. A good bibliography of works in the English language on these subjects is very much needed. Haferkorn's 'Handy List of Books on Mines and Mining (U. S.)' is an improved form of publisher's circular, but far from being sufficiently exhaustive to constitute a bibliography, nor is it always logical in its arrangement or complete in its references. Names of some of the best authorities on these subjects do not appear in it at all. Mr. Folkard's system of cataloguing would be improved by adding short subject-abstracts, and in every case the date of publication should be given. It is not every one who is competent to make a bibliography, and the first essential for such a work is a technical familiarity with the subject.

Under the title 'Physiology Practicums,' Prof. B. G. Wilder of Cornell publishes "explicit directions for examining portions of the cat, and the heart, eye, and brain of the sheep as an aid in the study of elementary physiology." The work consists of seventy-seven pages of text and twenty-seven plates unbound and enclosed in a portfolio. It will no doubt be found valuable to teachers giving instruction similar to that of the author.

In our recent notice of Prof. Marshall's 'Vertebrate Embryology' we inadvertently misnamed the American publishers, who are the Messrs. Putnam.

To students of art, Dr. Lippmann, the director of the Berlin Cabinet of Engravings, presents a valuable handbook on Copper-plate Engraving. This is the second number of the series of handbooks published by the Royal Berlin Museums. The book, while primarily intended for the use of students in the Berlin Cabinet, is a general handbook, aiming to present an historical account of engraving and its

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masters. The treatment is thoroughly German, but direct and pithy. Dr. Lippmann aims to keep before the mind the different methods of engraving, and not the least instructive chapter is the introductory one on technical processes. The value of the book is greatly enhanced by the illustrations. Of the numerous examples, but one is reduced in size; the others are chiefly details from plates too large to be reproduced in full. The technique of the various schools is thus fully displayed, in notable contrast to more pretentious and expensively illustrated histories of engraving. As a forthcoming volume in the series, Dr. Lippmann promises a book on Wood-Engraving.

The Continental art reviews for January are more than usually empty. The *Gazette des Beaux-Arts* contains nothing of value but a short study by M. Ary-Renan (son of the great writer) on "Orientalism" in modern painting. The *Archivio Storico dell' Arte* wastes space on a discussion of certain copies of Giorgione's masterpiece at Vicenza, "Christ bearing the Cross," which the writer prefers to the original; but a comparison of Alinari's photograph of this authentic work with the reproduction of the "replica" given in the text reveals how merely personal is this preference. Lützow's *Zeitschrift für Bildende Kunst* is more fortunate in a short discussion by Dr. Frizzoni of certain female portraits attributed to Leonardo; particularly of one in the Ambrosiana at Milan, already ascribed by Morelli to the Milanese painter, Ambrogio da Predis, and of the so-called "Belle Ferronnière" in the Louvre, in regard to which Dr. Frizzoni declares himself of the opinion pronounced by a number of different students in the last few years, that it is by Leonardo's close follower, Beltraffio.

The *Geographical Journal* for February opens with an account of a recent journey in Kurdistan by Captain Maunsell, in which he dwells especially on the great agricultural resources of the country, now undeveloped for lack of population and means of transport to the markets of the world. The introductory paper of a series on the geography of mammals, by W. L. Sclater, treats mainly of the regions into which zoölogists have divided the world, and describes the six which the author has adopted. An article on the southern plateau of Bolivia is noteworthy mainly for the frequent intimations of vast undeveloped mineral wealth contained in this region. Of more general interest is the letter of Captain Wiggins from Siberia, describing the successful voyage of a fleet across the Kara Sea last summer, carrying, among other things, rails for the Trans-Siberian Railway. He writes rather discouragingly of the probability of Dr. Nansen's having been able to pass the northernmost promontory of Asia, Cape Chelyuskin, because of the drift-ice which was very close in shore, adding: "I never before saw the ice in that vicinity so late in the season." There is a notice, with a portrait, of the late Sir Samuel W. Baker; the maps are of Kurdistan and of the globe, showing Mr. Sclater's six regions.

The London *Times* gives a remarkably interesting account, by Mr. Salter Pyne, who has recently returned from Cabul, of the progress of the Afghans in certain industrial arts. He went to Afghanistan at the request of the Ameer in 1885 to establish workshops and set up machinery. Buildings were erected, and first a plant of wood-working machinery, brought from England, was started. This was followed by the establishment of a mint, the coins being designed and the dies cut by Afghan workmen. Then came a manufactory of cartridges, and a steam-hammer and a forge were set up, from which "last year some fifty muzzle and breech-loading field guns were turned out." Other manufactures are candles, soap, boots (for the use of the army), furniture, carriages, and brandy-distilling. "The latest addition is an enormous plant for rolling cartridge metal. Most of this was made in the Cabul foundries, where castings of six tons have been turned out." These are all Government works, carried on for the avowed purpose of civilizing and refining the people, and, as Mr. Pyne says in concluding his report of what he has accomplished in eight years, their effects "upon the future of Afghanistan cannot be overrated."

The distinguishing feature of the January Bulletin of the Boston Public Library is an admirable list of the works which the library contains on Africa, with the exception of Egypt, filling some forty-five pages and containing the most recent publications. Those upon Egypt were given in the Bulletin for October, 1893. There is also a list of the historical fiction relating to France, and lists of works on the Alps and the steam-engine. Three facsimiles of broadsides and a map of especial interest to Bostonians are added.

In the year 1896 the Montenegrin Government proposes to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the accession to the throne of the first member of the present reigning family, the Prince-Bishop Danilo I. In connection with this celebration a prize of 5,000 francs is offered for the best history of the country for these two centuries. There is no restriction as to the language employed, but the manuscripts must be submitted to the Montenegrin Government before December 31, 1895.

Another celebration is that of the 500th anniversary of the birth of Prince Henry the Navigator at Oporto in March. Not a seaman himself, he contributed largely by his studies and patronage to the sending out of the Portuguese expeditions which led eventually to the doubling of the Cape of Good Hope and the discovery of India. There will be a civic procession, a river pageant with a caravel, the inauguration of a statue, and some other public ceremonies.

We have received a copy of the charter, by-laws, and list of members of the new Geographical Club of Philadelphia, of which the president is Prof. Angelo Heilprin, and the secretary, F. Lynwood Garrison. Both sexes are represented in the board of directors.

The January number of the *Pennsylvania Magazine of American History* contains an interesting article by Mr. William M. Meigs, on "Pennsylvania Politics Early in this Century." Incidentally it exhibits the growth of the nominating convention in that State, which (contrary to the claim lately put forth for Rhode Island) Mr. Meigs considers the cradle of the system, both State and national, in this country.

We welcome the annual 'Comparative Summary and Index of State Legislation [in New York],' for the past year, just issued by the University of the State of New York at Albany. As we have before stated, this guide to our law-making is of use to legislators everywhere.

The Scottish Association for the Medical Education of Women reports, as its principal gain for 1893, an important extension of clinical instruction, "on terms rather in excess of the demands made," to the Edinburgh women medical students, now 37 in number. This new concession came from the managers of the Royal Infirmary, the hospital where the medical students of the University of Edinburgh receive most of their clinical instruction. "In recognition of the fact that women students had been admitted to qualifying clinical instruction in the wards of the Royal Infirmary," certain friends of the women promptly presented $1,500 to the hospital. While graduation in medicine can be secured by students of the Scottish Association for the Medical Education of Women at the University of St. Andrew's, the University of Edinburgh still "hesitates" to open its medical classes to women. This report expresses the sanguine hope that the experience gained in the university's arts classes (where are 68 women), as well as the fact that the opening of the Royal Infirmary to women students had *not*, "as was expected in some quarters, caused any decrease in the number of male students," will encourage the Senate of the University of Edinburgh to make the necessary arrangements for the admission of women to its medical department. It may be stated, for the encouragement of timid or prudent educational bodies, that, "so far from any injury having been done to the Royal Infirmary through the falling off in the number of male students, the institution has this year [1893] received a larger amount in fees from students, male and female, than last year."

The announcement of the sale of the late Prince Lucien Bonaparte's library will arrest the attention of librarians and of their generous friends in this country. It embraces some 17,000 items, and is offered *en bloc*. Its philological range is very extended, as might be expected from both the studies and the resources of that well-known student of language, and it is particularly strong in the French and Italian departments. The sale will be effected privately through H. Sotheran & Co., 140 Strand, London, W. C., who supply the catalogue.

—Any one who has investigated the subject knows that there never was a census of American slaveholders, but that the estimates of their number even by their own partisans did not exceed 350,000, including the hirers of slaves. The *William and Mary College Quarterly* for January publishes a list of the "names of Princess Anne County [Va.] slaveowners who, during the year 1810, owned ten or more slaves," 118 in all; but nothing is stated as to the number or proportion of smaller owners, nor as to the source of the list given. If this enumeration could be extended by the *Quarterly* or by the Virginia Historical Society, it would be very instructive. In the same issue, Mr. Brock, secretary of the society just named, publishes a letter of 1682 touching New England's supply of slaves to Virginia, and deduces from it the then valuation of slaves as expressed in tobacco at £12, £16, and £20, according to age. "These prices," says Mr. Brock, "had nearly doubled at the period preceding the American Revolution, when boys and girls commanded from £20 to £30, and adults from £40 to £60. . . . At the close of the eighteenth century these last values had again about doubled." In 1856, when slave property was perhaps at its highest, and when the revival of the slave trade was being prepared, prices averaged $700, according to the Richmond *Enquirer*. The most curious document in the *Quarterly* is a reprint of St. George Tucker's heavy satirical reply (1795) to the disparaging account of Williamsburg in Jedediah Morse's 'American Universal Geography.' The writer was

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far more in his element when composing, at about the same time, his 'Dissertation on Slavery; with a Proposal for the Gradual Abolition of it in the State of Virginia' (Philadelphia, 1796). The reprint is followed by a hitherto unpublished letter from Judge John Tyler, father of the President, dated July 10, 1795, in praise of Tucker's pamphlet. In it occurs the passage, "To be sure, how many dirty efforts are made by these Northern cattle to reduce the consequence of Virginia. Every circumstance of human Life (both civil and political) proves how unfit the States were for such an Union as ours." Sentiments like these, at the date in question, indicate how little the abolitionists were chargeable with Southern contempt for the North or Southern proclivity towards secession.

—In the *Academy* for February 3 Mr. Grant Allen makes, we think, a substantial contribution towards the interpretation of Botticelli's famous picture at Florence called "Spring." This consists in regarding the three right-hand figures as symbolizing March, April, and May respectively, May being the beflowered nymph commonly called Flora. Mr. Allen hampers himself with his literary sources, relying overmuch on Horace's fourth ode (Book I.), and hence insisting on making a Favonius of the unmistakable Mercury on the extreme left, at the same time that he establishes his identity with the winged god by reason of the obscure instrument in his right hand, a caduceus. Not only, however, is the attitude quite unsuggestive of a "west wind," but the action of the whole figure is incompatible with the work assigned to it of "dispelling a mass of clouds which occupy the extreme upper left-hand corner of the composition"—like Coleridge's "gust of Autumn," that "crowds And breaks the busy moonlight clouds." In fact, the youth is intent on leisurely dislodging a fruit; and the windy hypothesis is much less rational than one that would make of the youth and dancing nymphs a decorous "Judgment of Paris." Mr. Allen conjectures the painting to have been one of four designed for as many panels, and each illustrating a season by its central figure and the accessory months. In citing Crowe and Cavalcaselle's non-committal description of the "Spring" as a "safe" one, we wonder he does not point out the gross errors of fact in it. Cupid is not bearing a torch but drawing his bow; and the figure emblematic of Fertility (Mr. Allen's April) has not a bow in her hands, or anything else: she needs them to get loose from the clutches of March.

—The Smithsonian Institution has just published the memoir by Prof. S. P. Langley, on the "Internal Work of the Wind," to which we made a brief reference a month ago. The fact which is here established is very simple, and naturally to be expected, namely, that all wind is very puffy, and a high wind more so than a gentle breeze. Although the author's apparatus had too much inertia to show how very great the real changes were, yet he got such results as this: On a certain day and hour, the wind, having a "velocity of twenty-three miles an hour, . . . rose within ten seconds to a velocity of thirty-three miles an hour, and within ten seconds more fell to its initial speed. It then rose within thirty seconds to a velocity of thirty-six miles an hour, and so on, with alternate risings and fallings, at one time actually stopping, and passing through eighteen notable maxima and as many notable minima, the average interval from a maximum to a minimum being a little over ten seconds, and the average change of velocity in this time being about ten miles an hour." It must evidently be practically impossible to put air into motion without setting up waves of condensation and rarefaction; therefore, the fact of the puffiness of the wind is not surprising. But the use to which Prof. Langley puts this fact is quite unexpected. His title indicates that he conceives air in such an oscillating condition as being substantially heated, though the heat is of a peculiar kind. However, he points out that in this case it is possible to violate the second law of thermodynamics; and he advances the hypothesis (which he puts very nearly if not quite out of doubt) that this is the way birds sail in the air. Namely, imagine a bird with outspread wings nearly motionless. Let it incline the plane of the wings so that the wind shall strike the under side. Then, Prof. Langley shows, from previous experiments of his own, that, owing to the inertia of the bird's body, instead of being carried on, it will at first be lifted. Gradually, however, the velocity of the wind will be communicated to the bird. But as it begins to feel the pressure on its wings diminishing, it either tilts the plane of the wings, or wheels, so that in the lull of the wind it will slip back upon an inclined plane to its first position. When the next puff comes, its wings are inclined as at the beginning, and its momentum is actually against the wind. This is not the whole story; but we must refer our readers to the memoir itself, which is much clearer and easier to understand than our attempt to state the matter. In fact, the perspicuity of expression in it is almost as remarkable as the perspicacity of thought. How great that is is shown by the failure of all previous attempts to explain the flight of birds.

—Mr. Leader Scott, the well-known writer on Florentine antiquities, in a little book aptly called 'Echoes of Old Florence' (Florence: Barbèra), has tried to strengthen these echoes, and to make them repeat what they once said clearly, and to yield up their human associations. How copious these are, everybody knows who has walked in the streets of Florence and had his eye caught at every few steps by a tablet on a palace front telling him that it had once been occupied by such and such a person famous in some line of human achievement. Excepting Athens, moreover, no other town has been so conscious of itself as Florence. Every little thing that happened to it as a state, or to any one of its citizens, seemed worthy of record, and there are very few events even of a perfectly parochial, not to say domestic, nature that have not been gleaned by the *novelliere* when they escaped the chronicler and historian. Florentine literature is, therefore, as no other whatever, autobiographic, and although this rather diminishes than increases its claims to universal interest, its value as a source of actual information is unrivalled. So true is this of Florentine literature that it is next to impossible to study it belletristically, its interest as an historical document always tending to get the upper hand; Dante himself forms scarcely an exception to this rule. It is this literature which Mr. Leader Scott has ransacked for his book: Dino Compagni, Villani, Sacchetti, Manni, manuscripts in the author's possession, and later historians, all being made to give up what was of pathetic and romantic as well as historical interest. He has made a little book for which the resident as well as the tourist can be grateful.

—'Tennyson: Poet, Philosopher, Idealist,' by J. Cuming Walters (London; Kegan Paul; New York: Charles Scribner's Sons) is further described on the title-page as "Studies of the Life, Work, and Teaching of the Poet Laureate." This is a solemn announcement and it announces a solemn book. Mr. Walters is no critic. He has a variety of critical phrases at his command, and these he applies with more judgment than his preliminary rhapsody on "the poet of yore" warrants us in expecting; but he shows little delicacy of discrimination and little skill in arranging what he has to say. That he lacks a sense of humor the book gives evidence *passim*, but one delicious bit of testimony must be extracted: Tennyson, we are told, "only voted once in the House of Lords, his support being given to the County Franchise bill; and, *had his health been better*, he intended to vote for the Deceased Wife's Sister bill, of which he heartily approved." (The italics are ours.) The book is much padded with extracts from familiar poems and with bombast from Mr. Walters's own manufactory. Worse than padding is the astounding statement that, in "The Foresters," Tennyson "has not departed to any extent from the main lines of the legend which lives in that fine old English ballad, 'A Lytell Geste of Robyn Hode.'" Yet, after all, the book is not useless. It is the fruit of a sort of enthusiastic industry, and, despite its heaviness, its disorder, and its critical superficiality, it contains a great deal of valuable material. The student and the literary historian will not consult it in vain.

—The ancient Oxford custom providing that a university sermon on "Humility" be preached towards the beginning of Lent was duly observed in St. Mary's Church on the first Sunday in February of this year. An apparently unprecedented coincidence made that same Sunday the day for the yearly Assize sermon, at which the Lord Chief Justice on Circuit—representing under those circumstances nothing less than the sacrosanct person of the Queen—has to be officially present, and also appointed that this year's preacher should be the Archbishop of Canterbury, who outranks the Lord Chief Justice on other occasions. It is not recorded that the secular and spiritual powers in England have ever before been confronted in just this way; certainly their two accredited representatives have never before vied in the public and professed exemplification of Christian humility. It is, therefore, hardly to be wondered at if time-honored means for outwardly marking that virtue failed to cover completely the demands of so unforeseen an emergency. The official representatives of the University could leave off their scarlet robes and appear, as they very properly did, in humble black as inglorious Masters of Arts; but the pomp and retinue of the royal Judge of Assize could not be laid on the shelf, and, that being the case, the head of the Church could hardly dispense with the obsequious attendance of a procession to conduct him to the pulpit. Precedent would have warranted a less exalted dignitary in finding his way thither early and unattended, there to be found humbly awaiting his auditors, and so it has often been done. The particular form of humility adopted this year for his Grace of Canterbury was a processional entrance much more imposing than is usual for University preachers. When this was over, the Vice-Chancellor heard a tucket from without, and the procession issued forth in order to escort the trumpeted lowliness of Lord Coleridge to a seat of honor. At the close his Lordship was

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attended to the Judge's carriage, and his Grace waited until that was over before leaving the pulpit. This concession was made to the secular arm, although the preacher might from his sermon be said, in the phraseology of the Judge of Assize, to have changed the "venue" of humility from this world to the next, since he defined it as "a spiritual sense of spiritual proportion."

A VETERAN REFORMER.

Frederic Hill: An Autobiography of Fifty Years in Times of Reform. Edited, with additions, by his daughter, Constance Hill. London: Richard Bentley & Son. 1893.

EVERYBODY has heard of Rowland Hill, who in 1840 achieved his darling idea of penny postage. A life of him has been written by his nephew, Dr. Birkbeck Hill, the editor *par excellence* of Boswell. His oldest brother was Matthew Davenport Hill, whose life has also been written; his youngest brother (save one who died early) was Frederic, the subject of the present memoir, and now the sole survivor of five very remarkable men, Edwin and Arthur being the other two brothers. Mr. Frederic Hill is now in his ninety-first year. We realize his age when we read that he well remembers his great-uncle, John Hill, who enrolled himself as a volunteer against the Pretender in 1745, and that he himself has shared in two royal jubilees—that of George III. in 1810 and that of Queen Victoria in 1887. He remembers also his maternal grandfather, William Lea, who rescued a reputed witch from a moat into which she had been flung by a mob; and he was a boy of fourteen when a murder was committed in Birmingham for which impunity was secured by the murderer's appealing to the wager of battle before Lord Ellenborough and the full court of Queen's Bench. He saw the pillory in use; he had a hand in abolishing the treadmill in prisons, and that not so very long ago. He tells of one of his acquaintances "who was subject to occasional fits of insanity. When these occurred, he was taken to the lunatic asylum of his district, and there bound to a seat on a pivot, which was whirled round and round till he became insensible." "Within my lifetime," he reminds us, "Men were hanged for stealing five shillings' worth of goods." Born in the midst of the Napoleonic wars, "Boney" was a terror to him, and not less the press-gang, which caused the boy to run at night through the streets of Birmingham, though in no danger, on account of his youth. He shared in the rejoicings over Napoleon's abdication and again over Waterloo. When he visited Paris in 1824, "the Rue de la Paix was the only street which was provided with a footpath; at night the city was lighted by dim oil-lamps, which were suspended by ropes across the streets."

In this narrative by one who, in spite of his great age, is still a man of the time, the survivals seem more ancient than the genuine antiquities. When we read of "a curious old Scottish Act of Parliament by which the killing of plovers was made punishable, 'because,' as the Act set forth, 'they fly over the Border and feed on the lands of our natural enemies, the English'"; or again, "At Banff [in 1835] I met Mr. Cameron, the Provost. . . . . He told me he could distinctly remember going with his father's grieve into the Highlands to pay 'blackmail' to the chieftain of the district as a security against the 'lifting' of his father's cattle. This 'blackmail' was paid in kind, chiefly in oatmeal"—does that seem as far off as the following, dated Lincoln, 1850?

"I was remarking to Mr. Fardell on the youthful appearance of most of the county magistrates at the meeting last week, and was surprised to hear from him that most of them had been put into the Commission of Peace when they were mere infants; and that till lately this was a common practice, just as children used to have commissions in the army and navy."

And again, it is hard to believe that duelling has been unlawful in England for only half a century—*i. e.*, since 1843, "when the death of Col. Fawcett, by the hand of his brother-in-law, produced so great a revulsion of feeling that public opinion would no longer sanction such outrages."

The main interest of this work, in which there is not a dull page, lies in its illustration of British philanthropy—not of the Exeter Hall variety, if that sneering term must be confined to those whose active benevolence was unconfined and non-insular; but animated first of all by the spirit of domestic, however broad its sympathy with universal, reform. As individuals, the Hills were but a type of a class which, for warm-heartedness, self-consecration, energy, and generosity in giving has hardly any parallel outside of Great Britain. As a family, however, they must have been exceptional even apart from their variety of talent. Parents and children worked together with a surprising unanimity and yet without domination or leadership. Their common private interest was the famous school at Edgbaston, exemplifying Rowland Hill's "Hazelwood system." In 1831, on the eve of the final struggle over the Reform Bill, a sacrifice seemed necessary.

"The period," says Frederic, "being one of national crisis, we held a family council to determine what action duty to our country called upon us to take. All agreed that one member should be spared from the work of the school and set at liberty to take an active part in the coming struggle. I was chosen for this purpose. Without loss of time, therefore, I enrolled myself as a member of the Political Union, an association which had been started in Birmingham as early as January, 1830."

Such sacrifices may have suggested the idea of insurance in the manner described in the following extract:

"In the year 1832 we established what we called the 'Family Fund.' Its object was to secure every member of our family (five of whom were now married) from pecuniary anxiety. The necessary expenditure of each branch of the family was assessed, and half the remaining surplus income, in each case, was handed over annually to the 'Family Fund.' Its management, together with the selection of investments, was intrusted to me. This fund continued in being for twenty-four years; at the end of which time the general condition of our family had so far improved that all pecuniary anxieties had disappeared. The balance, which had much increased in amount, was then divided; each person's share being in proportion to his original contribution."

Four of the brothers entered the public service, for the public good.

"I determined," says Frederic, "on Matthew's advice, to be called to the bar to facilitate my entrance into the Civil Service, and to that end entered my name as a student of Lincoln's Inn. Being 'called' in those days was a very different affair from what it is now. No study of the law was required, and there was no examination. When, some time later, the last of the prescribed dinners had been eaten, I was conducted to the upper end of Lincoln's Inn Hall, and introduced to the benchers. A manuscript was then placed in my hands containing the opening part of a trial, and I was desired to read it aloud. I had scarcely, however, uttered a few words when the bencher made me a slight bow, which indicated his perfect satisfaction in my legal acquirements, and was also a sign that the ceremony was concluded."

Two years later Mr. Hill was appointed an inspector of prisons by Lord John Russell, then home secretary; and the chapters which relate to the discharge of his duties, first in Scotland and afterwards in the north of England and Wales, are among the most valuable in this autobiography, and contain his monument as a benefactor of his countrymen. We have not space to examine them in detail, even to extract from them the curiosities of evil custom and legislation which he helped to abolish, or to dwell on the principles which guided him. As the inventor of the "indeterminate sentence," his portrait fitly adorns our own Elmira Reformatory; and his cardinal doctrine that all prisoners should be provided with employment, and all paid at market rates for work done beyond the allotted task, deserves to be studied in its consequences wherever the poison of the trades unions has clouded the popular understanding on this subject. Mr. Hill's sojourn in Scotland brought him in contact with well-known personages, legal and literary, who contribute their share to the capital anecdotes with which these pages abound. He was afterwards associated with his brother Rowland in the post-office, and effected many improvements in the money-order department; and it was while thus engaged (in 1855) that he refused to mount the roof to view the grand procession escorting the Emperor Louis Napoleon to the Guildhall. "I replied that I had been so long an inspector of prisons that the sight of a rogue had ceased to be any novelty to me."

It is in keeping with the family feeling that pervades this delightful book that the portraits of three of the brothers are by Miss Ellen G. Hill, a sister of the editor; and they are faces of distinction. Edwin, who was in the stamp department, possessed a great deal of mechanical contrivance, but he was also a thinker on financial and economic topics. He held, we are told, that "criminal enterprise requires capital for its development as much as honest labor, and that if those who harbor criminals and receive stolen goods were effectively dealt with by the law, theft and burglary, as an organized business, must fall to the ground." That a criminals' insurance fund might be the product of circumstances like those which make our city government a den of thieves, will readily be believed by those who observe what goes on in our criminal courts, both as respects the ready employment of counsel and the reliance upon "pulls."

We conclude with a passage which marks the difference between America and England in respect of traditions of administration. Our readers do not need to be told why our salvation—at present at least—lies in the very measure which Mr. Frederic Hill deprecates. He says:

"Another matter in which my brother [Rowland] and I agreed (indeed, I do not recollect anything in which we did not agree), related to the competitive examinations by the Civil Service Commissioners. We regarded the introduction of these examinations into the Post-office with much regret. Their tendency, we were convinced, is to fill the ranks of the officers with mediocrity; mediocrity, that is, as regards the qualifications which are essential for zealous and efficient action. They are opposed to the great principle that those who are responsible for the success of any business should have the choice of its officers; seeing that they have the greatest interest in a good selection, and possess the fullest knowledge of the qualifications required."

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EARLY MAGNETICAL SCIENCE.—II.

William Gilbert of Colchester, physician of London, on the Loadstone and Magnetic Bodies and on the great Magnet, the Earth; A New Physiology, demonstrated with many Arguments and Experiments. A translation by P. Fleury Mottelay. John Wiley & Sons. 1893.

THE immediate success of Gilbert's book on the lodestone was surprising. No doubt it astonished the author. He had said in his preface, *paucis philosophandum censuimus*, "we have resolved to philosophize for a few" (which Mr. Mottelay translates, We have held that philosophy is for the few), and it is said that the first edition consisted of but a small number of copies. Yet a burst of the most valuable admiration followed the publication. Kepler refers to it twice in his *magnum opus*, and in many other places, with the highest praise. Galileo said it excited his envy. Even Descartes, with his French indisposition to build up any other man's reputation, referred to it with approval. It is true, as might have been expected, that Descartes was able very much to improve upon Gilbert's conceptions. All this applause was somewhat more than the work really deserved. Those from whom it came were not acquainted with Peregrinus, and did not know that, notwithstanding his reclamatory asterisks, much of what so delighted them was not original with Gilbert. Still, to-day, with all the facts before us, we cannot but admit that the book displays a wonderful Faradayesque power of carrying along experimentation and cerebration, hand in hand. If we ask what positive new principle Gilbert defined, we must admit that there is nothing except that of induction at a distance; but that is a good deal. He also has a vague conception of curved lines of force, which, imperfect as it is, is of inestimable value. Furthermore, he is the author of the theory that the earth is a magnet. His apparatus consisted of spherical lodestones imitated from Peregrinus, and also of the versorium, or small compass-needle, of which Peregrinus made no use. Gilbert's discoveries were inevitable consequences of his improved apparatus. When he has gone successfully as far as his apparatus will carry him, he begins to theorize in a way that merits Bacon's strictures. He wishes to account for the invariability of the direction of the earth's axis and for the rotation of the earth, by magnetism. He thinks that magnetic polarity is an essential character of the pure chemical element, earth. That is almost as unscientific as Peregrinus, towards whose vagaries Gilbert betrays some leaning.

Although Dr. Gilbert had the honor of giving its name to electricity (that is, he invented the adjective *electric*, from which the abstract noun followed as a matter of course), yet his electrical experiments are contemptible. The reason was that he made no electroscope, but used only an unmagnetic versorium. The consequence was that almost everything escaped him, even to electrical polarity, and even to repulsion, which one does not clearly see how he could help noticing. In short, he left electricity just about where the ancients left magneticity.

Celebrated and lauded as the 'De Magnete' always has been throughout Europe, it is singular that it has been printed only twice. The first edition is in folio. Twenty years ago, for an exceptionally fine copy, the exorbitant Quaritch would make a man pay 25 shillings, and now the multiplication of rich electricians has made $25 cheap for it. The second edition, which first appeared in 1628, is in quarto. It bears the imprint, "Excusus Sedini typis Gotzianis." Mr. Mottelay easily concludes that the town meant is Stettin; indeed, he might have pointed out that the volume contains some laudatory verses signed "Gregorius Westphal. super. Dicaster. Pomeranus, Advocatus et Schabinatus Sedinensis Assessor." Heré is plainly a Sedinum in Pomerania; and it would be extravagant to doubt that it is the Sedinum of the title-page. Some copies of a quarto edition printed at the same place bear the date 1633. One of these is in our hands. The horizontal water-lines in the first sheet are distant from one another 24 millimetres; in all the rest of the book their distance is 32 millimetres. In short, the paper of the first sheet is different, and the printing of it (including, of course, the title-page) was presumably executed at a different time from the rest. On the whole, it seems probable that this is nothing but the edition of 1628 with a new first sheet substituted, a common bookseller's device. If any person owning a copy bearing the date 1628 will look at page 219, tenth line from the bottom, he can verify or overthrow this surmise. That line, in the edition of 1633 reads: "verint] in contrariam sophantium quorundam stupor, qui cum," from which some words have clearly dropped out. The quarto text is somewhat more accurate than that of the folio; many of the illustrations are incomparably finer; it has the advantage of an index of 23 pages, and it can be had for a reasonable price. The only objection to it is that it omits the asterisks of two sizes which Gilbert put in his margin to draw attention to matter which he claimed as original. But these can now readily be supplied from Mr. Mottelay's translation. A new edition of the Latin, accompanied by a translation and full annotations, is a desideratum. It requires for the execution of it a competent acquaintance with mediæval and Paracelsian philosophy and with the writings of the medical men of the sixteenth century.

Gilbert treats every part of his subject historically. Thus, in his first chapter, he refers to fifty, sixty, or more authors. The reader naturally wishes to know who these were, in a general way, at least, and something of their characteristics; and the passages referred to should be put before him. Mr. Mottelay supplies a few notes which sometimes contain welcome information. But really it was not needful for him to state who Thomas Aquinas was, nor to offer a judgment upon him; nor are we particular to be referred to the page of Webster's, or Worcester's, or Ogilvie's dictionary where some term of ancient astronomy may be found defined, for better or for worse. It is no use telling us to "consult" works of which not half-a-dozen copies exist, and those in another quarter of the globe. Nor do we see the value of such references as this: "Beati Alb. Magni, Ratisboniensis, . . . lib. viii., Lugduni, 1651," where the name of the book is omitted apparently to make room for the long name of the archbishopric. When we are advised to "consult Vincentii Burgundi, *Spec. Mai.*," as we are several times, we understand that the writer usually called Vincentius Bellovacensis is meant. At least a dozen times, Brown's 'Pseudoloxia Epidemica' is quoted, instead of 'Pseudodoxia.'

We notice only a small proportion of the faults which have chanced to catch our eye. On p. 4, several authors' names are wrongly given, as Brasevolus instead of Brasavolus, Hermolaus Barbatus instead of Barbarus, Hannibal Roserius Calaber instead of Rosetius; while Aëtius of Amida is omitted. For Hali Abbas the translator writes "Abohali (Hali Abbas)" in severa places. Now Hali Abbas is the usual designation of a very famous physician, Ali-ibn-al-Abbas, and Abohali is no part of his name. On the other hand, on p. 76, where the Latin does read Abohali, we have in the translation (it is the word *carab*, meaning amber, that is under discussion):

"In Arabic *carab* means oblation, not *rapiens paleas* (snatching chaff), as Scaliger would have it, quoting from the Arabic or Persian of Abohali (Hali Abbas)."

The fact that Gilbert does not know whether the language is Arabic or Persian shows that he does not know who it is that Scaliger (J. C., of course) means by Abohali. The "Hali Abbas" is Mr. Mottelay's gloss. But the writer Scaliger meant was no other than *Abu-Ali*-al-Hasan-ibn-Abdallah-ibn-Sina, usually called Avicenna. For in this physician's Canon, Lib. II., tr. ii., cap. 364, we read, in the translation of Gerhardus Carmonensis: "*Karabe*, scilicet, *rapiens paleas Persice*." The translator sometimes writes names in their Latin forms, sometimes in the vernacular, without any rule. Thus, Pietro d'Abano is twice so called, and once, Petrus Apponensis. When we read of "Marbodæus, a Frenchman," we have no idea who is meant; but when we see the name written "Marbodeus Gallus," we recall that eleventh century poet, surnamed Peliciarius. Looking out Marco Polo, in the index, we are referred to p. 11, where we read of Baptista Porta learning some obvious properties of the lodestone "from Messer Paolo, the Venetian." Now, the original has (in the ablative) "R. M. Paulo Veneto"; and the "R. M.," or *Reverend* Master, might have sufficed to show that Marco Polo was not meant. Besides, that traveller, in the text used by Yule, says never a word about the lodestone. Turning, however, to the preface to the seventh book of Porta's 'Natural Magic,' the book treating of magnetism, we read:

"At Venice we knew intent upon the same study 'R. M. Paulum Venetum,' at that time provincial of the order of Servite monks, now the very worthy procurator, from whom far from blushing to have learned some things, we glory in it; for we have never come across a man more learned nor more intelligent than he, born for the Encyclopedia, the splendor and ornament not of the city of Venice only, nor of Italy, but of the world."

This description suits Sarpi alone, who, though his baptismal name was Pietro, was *Fra Paolo* in religion, and who was elected provincial of the Servites in 1579, and was appointed procurator in 1588.

The translator's English is certainly very graceful. Perhaps it might, here and there, be advantageously brought nearer to the author's meaning. When Gilbert writes "nihil præter errores et caligines in tam excellenti cognitione commonet," would it not be better to render this, "he suggests nothing in this lofty inquiry but errors and obscurities," instead of "he does but add errors and obscurities to his otherwise excellent treatise"? On p. 17, we read: "hence one loadstone is male, another female." The Latin is: "mas num sit an femina," which seems to ask, "Is it then male or female?" *Plumbum album* is constantly translated "zinc," but it is certain that George Agricola meant tin by *plumbum candidum*, and we do not see how zinc will answer. It is not white, to begin with. It is easy to suppose that Gilbert, like many writers, meant by *stannum* pewter or some alloy. On p. 47, the translator speaks of things "arranged *according to artificial conditions*." The Latin is "artificiose," better translated

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"scientifically." On p. 58, by way of antidote to poisoning by iron, the translator represents Avicenna as recommending "a drachm of loadstone taken in a draught of the juice of *dog's mercury*." Gilbert says *mercurialis*, by which he must have understood the French mercury, not the poisonous dog's mercury. But we cannot find that Avicenna really made any such recommendation. He proposes that lodestone should be mixed with iron filings when they are prescribed, and should be taken in "melicratum," or mead, not *mercurialis*. Is there not some clerical error? Page 63, Mottelay: "loadstone is *chiefly* earthy." The Latin is *maxime*, and should certainly be translated "in the highest degree."

On page 94, the translation reads, "So, too, a dry body does not run to the dry rim of a vessel containing water; but, on the contrary, a wet object does." The Latin is: "Ita nec ad limbum vasis siccum appellit humidum, sed humidum petit limbum," which may be rendered, "So a wet object does not approach the dry side of a vessel but seeks the wet side." On p. 87, *gemma Vincentii* is translated "vincentina," but what is that? On p. 97, the translation is: "Electric bodies attract the electric only, and the body attracted undergoes no modification through its own native force, but is drawn freely under impulsion in the ratio of its matter (composition)." The Latin is: "Electrica corpora alliciunt tantum, allectum non immutatur insita vi, sed materiæ ratione sponte appulsum incumbit." Perhaps this might be rendered; "Electric bodies only attract; the attracted body is not changed in its native force, but by reason of matter, being invoked, willingly exerts itself." Gilbert certainly thinks the excited amber by something very like human persuasion induces things to come to it. On p. 123, the translation reads, "And as light—so the opticians tell us—arrives instantly, in the same way *with far greater instantaneousness* the magnetic energy is present within the limits of its forces." The words we have italicized are, in the original, *multo magis*, "much more." That is, we have much more reason to think magnetic induction is instantaneous. Mr. Mottelay's translation would make Gilbert deny the absolute instantaneousness of illumination, which he never dreamed of doing. The phrase *multo magis* is often used in the sense of *a fortiori*. On p. 169 occurs the word *halinitro;* but this is not English. It would be better to speak either of "halinitrum (carbonate of soda)" or of "mineral alkali."

We could easily multiply the number of such criticisms by ten; but the general rationale of the course of experimentation is not affected by such slips. We wish, however, before closing this notice, to make some remarks upon some ruling practices of the translator. *Manifestus* is almost everywhere rendered by "manifest." Now, we have no objection at all to an effort to so turn the meaning of the English word; only the peculiar acception should be explained. *Manifestus*, in the language of physicists, means open to direct observation after making the appropriate experiment. It does not imply that the thing is evident *unless* the experiment is made. For instance, on p. 217: "Here we must express wonder at a *manifest* error of Baptista Porta, . . . to wit, that iron rubbed with diamond turns to the north." Even when the translator selects a different word, he fails to convey the peculiar meaning of *manifestum*. Thus, on p. 212: "It is *plain* (*manifestum*) that all the bars so hammered out toward the north and so laid down while cooling will rotate round their centres, and when afloat will move about in water, and will point north." It is not plain that they *will* behave so; but if the experiment be made, it *will* become plain that they do so behave.

An admiring translator of an old author very naturally and almost excusably falls unawares into a way of slurring over his author's cruder conceptions, and of representing him as more modern in his ideas than he really was. We have seen how Mr. Mottelay, by a most forced rendering, would lead his reader to think that Gilbert believed in the finite velocity of light. Gilbert's ignorance of forces was profound. At a time before Galileo's achievements were known, Gilbert could not be expected to have a knowledge of dynamics, but one might suppose that so perspicacious a mind would have a not altogether erroneous instinctive idea of force. If we compare Gilbert with Dr. John Dee, whose period of activity antedates the 'De Magnete' by thirty or forty years, we find the older man, for whom posterity has had only contempt, to be far better equipped with conceptions of mechanics than the younger. Gilbert comes, in the course of his book, into conflict with each one of the three laws of motion, but most frequently with the law of action and reaction.

Between the words *potestas*, *dominium*, *potentia*, *vis*, *virtus*, *robur*, *vigor*, he draws no clear distinction, as can be seen in book ii., chapter xxix., first paragraph, where all these words occur in the same sense. Yet Mr. Mottelay throws a garb of modernness over his translation by an incessant use of the word "energy." Take, for example, the following definition. The original reads, "*Verticitas*, vigor polaris, non περιδίνησις, sed περιδινείσιος δύναμις: non vertex aut πόλος, sed virtus convertens." The obvious translation is, "*Verticity*, polar vigor, not a rotation, but a tendency to rotation; not a pole, but a property of turning." But Mr. Mottelay translates as follows: "*Verticity*. Polar strength—activity (or what in Gilbert's day was understood as energy); not gyrating, vertiginous, but turning power; nor is it polar revolution, but a directing virtue, an innate turning vigor."

Where, in the original, does he find anything about its being *innate?* It is difficult to understand the clause in parenthesis. If Mr. Mottelay means to say that in Elizabethan English the word *energy* was used to translate *vigor*, he is mistaken. The word *energy* was not in use at all, except in the sense of liveliness in writing. The reason it was not used was that the Greek word was perfectly translated by the Latin *actus* and English *act*. As Sir William Hamilton well says, "Energy, act, operation, are convertible terms." Everybody knows that "energy" was the precise contrary to δύναμις, the word which Gilbert selects to express what his verticity *is;* so that energy is particularly adapted for *avoidance* in translating it. But if Mr. Mottelay means that the word energy will convey to electricians and other modern readers the conception in Gilbert's mind, we venture again to dissent. We admit that the converse is true. If one wanted to give a single word which should convey in Latin to the prescientific man the nearest idea possible to that of our energy, *vigor* might perhaps be the best choice. But when, on the contrary, the purpose is to put the modern man into the state of mind of the prescientific man—the Gilbert—the word "vigor," if it be at fault, is so because it conveys a too scientific idea. "Energy" ought not to be thought of for an instant. Mr. Mottelay seems really to be at some pains to conceal a thing which it should have been one of his chief concerns to bring to light, the contrast between Gilbert's conceptions of magnetic action and those of any scientific man of our time. Nevertheless, we are very much obliged to him for the translation. The book is more than amply worth its price.

The History of Illinois and Louisiana under the French Rule; embracing a general view of the French Dominion in North America, with some account of the English occupation of Illinois. By Joseph Wallace, counsellor at law, etc. Cincinnati: Robert Clarke & Co. 1893.

Mr. Parkman is quoted by name in this book twelve times. The occasions on which he is the real authority must be twelve times twelve. Many incidents in the narrative have also been gleaned from the collections of State historical societies, or monographs on counties and towns, and some from public archives. Still, a volume like this of Mr. Wallace's was needed to bring the history of the Mississippi Valley during its first century within the reach of the great mass of students. In his work there is much to commend. The details are well selected, related, and grouped. We trace with growing interest the progress, decade after decade, of discovery, exploration, and occupation. The obstacles to advancement, owing to the face of the country, climate, conflicts with savages or between civilized nations, and blunders in economics, are fairly presented. The careers of Marquette, with many other missionaries as self-sacrificing—of Joliet, La Salle, Tonty, Iberville, Bienville, and later of several English and Spanish leaders—give a continuity to the historic chain. Everything is set forth from a Western or Mississippi Valley standpoint. The primitive geography at every point possible is brought in touch with that of the living present. Popular errors on this matter are corrected, as where Kaskaskia is shown to have been at first not at its present location, but far up the Illinois River and near Starved Rock.

The two chief lessons, however, of Mr. Wallace's book seem to be these: first, the inferiority of the French settlers of the West to the English who settled the Atlantic slope. The latter were largely a sort of martyrs who had dared dissent from opinions prevalent where they were born, and had pluck enough to suffer for the faith that was in them. The former were not of this class; no Huguenots were allowed among them. The second lesson is that French colonization, even though it had been tolerant of Huguenots and had brought over a half a million of them, must have been a failure. It furnished no school of self-government like New England town-meetings, nothing analogous to the intellectual discipline afforded by Puritan common schools. Hence, at best, it could have developed only a lower type of civilization than that, formed at the East, which overflowed the Alleghanies and fertilized the West. Anglo-Saxon predominance in the great valley is a clear survival of the fittest.

Mr. Wallace's index of seventeen pages is not a mere list of names, but it explains in most cases what those names indicate. The title of his book is too long. Titles and epitaphs cannot be too short. His vocabulary inclines to be verbose and grandiose. His book would be more readable if various documents and statements were either greatly condensed or relegated to an appendix. He seems to know just enough French to misquote, for he

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prints *Le* État, *Le* Baye, etc. He is incredulous about the discoveries of Radisson, but is ignorant how to spell his name. Many proper names he prints with variants in spelling. We find not only Zenobe, and Zenobius, but *Zenobious* (p. 85). Nor are other words better printed. "The King granted Tonty three hundred *livers*" (p. 84). Errors of this sort, either scriptorial or typographical, are inexcusably common. Space forbids noticing more than one mistake in fact. According to Mr. Wallace, Joliet, on returning from the Mississippi, "passed down Lakes Huron, Erie, and Ontario" (p. 66). But Joliet himself says that on that journey he passed down *forty-two* rapids. This he could not do on the lakes and St. Lawrence; therefore he came down the Ottawa, in which they are multitudinous, and which afforded a route far shorter and safer than that by the lakes.

Barlaam und Joasaph: Eine bibliographisch-literaturgeschichtliche Studie, von Ernst Kuhn. Aus den Abhandlungen der k. bayer. Akademie der Wissenschaften. I. Classe. XX. Band. Munich. 1893.

Few works of the legendary sort appeal to so many different interests as 'Barlaam and Josaphat' (or *Joasaph*, to use the better form). Its importance to patristic students has only been emphasized by Mr. Armitage Robinson's recent discovery that the Greek version contains a large fragment of the Apology of Aristides. It is of considerable value to the historian of dogma. To the Orientalist it offers a number of attractively knotty problems. The investigator of mediæval literature finds much that is instructive in the study of its transmission from people to people, and, in particular, of the enormous vogue which some of its parables attained—notably the Trumpet of Doom, the Man in the Pit, the Fowler and the Bird, the King for a Year, and the Three Caskets. The amateur of the curious will always respect a document which effected the introduction of Buddha, as a Christian saint, into the Roman Menology and the Greek Menæa. The enthusiast who dreams of a universal religion may well find aid and comfort in the ease with which a Buddhistic legend adapted itself to the edification of Mohammedans and Christians alike.

It is therefore with no common satisfaction that we welcome a thorough discussion of this work from so well equipped a scholar as Ernst Kuhn. The careful treatise of Zotenberg, which appeared so recently as 1886, was quickly made obsolete by the discovery of unknown texts—including one in Arabic and one in Georgian. Hommel's appendix to Weisslovits's 'Prinz und Derwisch' (1890) discussed these texts and summarized the investigations of Baron von Rosen, but arrived at results which merely signalized the need of further study. His acceptance of the theory that the Greek was translated from the Georgian was almost a challenge, and many of his own conjectures were of the boldest. Kuhn has gone over the whole ground afresh, and has reached conclusions which are vastly more satisfactory than Hommel's—conclusions which may, to be sure, admit of modification in details, but can hardly be shaken in the main unless by the turning up of further material.

Kuhn rejects the theory of Von Rosen and Hommel that the Greek text is derived from the Georgian, and upholds the date (seventh century A. D.) assigned to it by Zotenberg. Both the Greek and the Georgian, he maintains, are derived from a common original, which may probably have been written in the Christian-Palestinian dialect of Aramaic. This original, in common with the non-Christian Arabic forms of the legend, he derives in its turn from a lost Pahlavī version. This last he supposes to have been composed by an Iranian Christian who took his materials, not from any written life of Buddha, but from current traditions with which he was familiar. The purpose of the work is conjectured to have been to counteract Buddhistic proselyting. The bold, but hardly improbable, conjecture is ventured that two Arabic biographies of Buddha, mentioned by the Fihrist, were, in their Pahlavī form, the very treatises which the author wished to oppose. The Greek 'Barlaam and Joasaph,' Kuhn continues, is no mere translation, but a free working-over of the legend with large additions of a theological cast. These inferences are drawn after a searching examination of the documentary evidence, and are supported by an array of testimony not more remarkable for its learning than for the acumen with which it is interpreted.

Nearly half of the monograph is taken up with what may be called the modern history of the legend. By translations from the Greek and more especially from the mediæval Latin version of the Greek, 'Barlaam and Josaphat' was made a part of almost every literature of the world, and these translations are catalogued and classified by Kuhn with a clearness and a fulness of bibliographical detail that will make the second part of his book indispensable to students of mediæval literature. The separate parables also receive elaborate treatment. The attention of Chaucerians may be called to page 82, where "The Pardoner's Tale," an analogue of which is contained in Ibn Chisdai's Hebrew adaptation of 'Barlaam,' is richly illustrated. Two or three additions might be made to this page, but they are of small consequence. Of somewhat greater moment is the omission of the Croissant episode in the romance of 'Bauduin de Sebourc' from the list of Old French versions of 'Barlaam,' but this is an omission which all previous investigators seem also to have made. The curious rhyming chap-book, 'The Heathen's Conversion, the Life of Jehosaphat,' has, naturally enough, also escaped the notice of Kuhn.

An excursus on the appearance of Barlaam and Josaphat among the saints of the Church closes this remarkable monograph, for which no praise can be too high.

The Interpretation of Nature. By Nathaniel Southgate Shaler. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1893. 8vo, pp. 305.

The chapters of this volume were delivered as lectures to the students of a theological seminary. By way of concession to the special interests of the audience, the emotional and the moral and religious traits in the characters of the lower animals and men are given particular attention. A correct interpretation of nature should be a synonym for the ordinary term natural science; this discussion is somewhat broader and treats of the science of the day in connection with religion, laying stress on the relations between knowledge of nature and religious theory. The book is a good conservative summary of present results in science, with speculations on future scientific progress and on consequences in religious development.

Excessive caution and suggestion rather than positive assertion are everywhere patent. The training of a naturalist seldom induces readiness to accept and teach conclusions founded on faith. The differences recognized by this author between the scientific and the theologic explanation of nature are intimated in the remark that the latter "necessarily dwells on large matters which are to be accepted on the basis of faith alone." It is not easy from these pages to determine the exact condition of Prof. Shaler's religious belief, yet a tolerable idea may be secured from statements in substance like the following: Man should find his heaven about his doors in this world; the admonitions from the world of fact in favor of right doing and against evil are as mandatory as any which have been received from the realm of the supernatural, but the voice of nature appeals to trained ears, while a blind faith is found among all men; in a belief based on experience there is but one kingdom, one order, one control in the universe; materialists and spiritualists may eventually be expected to harmonize through the growing conviction that all matter is but a mode of action of energy; the practical unification of religion and science appears inevitable, though the steps may not be foreseen; the investigator, having exhausted the field covered by his narrow vision, resorts to supposition more or less mystical concerning the actions or purposes of the forces of nature, and is thus led into the paths of the theologist, into the domain of faiths, where approximation to truth must lead to harmony; the primary effect of union will be abandonment of the conception of two distinct realms, the natural and the supernatural, and the acceptance of the belief that the universe is one great field through which the spirit of man is to range with ever increasing freedom; it is by no means certain that the fit harvest is personal immortality, but, so far as we can see, the unknown continuation of the known is best satisfied by the hypothesis that life is in some way perpetuated with all the personal profit which has been attained by that greatest of all natural results, the individual soul. The author evidently feels that there is something uncertain and insecure in the foundations of our science; this is the feeling of most scientists, and it may be added that many of them have a similar feeling in regard to religion.

A wide range is traversed by Prof. Shaler in the discussion of topics like appreciation of nature, critical points in the continuity of natural phenomena, the place of organic life in nature, the march of the generations, the bond of the generations, the natural history of sympathy, and the immortality of the soul from the point of view of natural science. On topics like heredity, selection, curiosity, love of nature, altruism, sympathy, fear of death, and sorrow, there are sure to be differences of opinion. In a comparison of the mind of the Greek with that of the Roman, it might be preferable to treat Aristotle more as an exception, since his influence on his countrymen, as on their neighbors, was very slight. It might be questioned, also, whether the fear of death is really so great or sorrow so excessive as might be inferred from the text. As for the science of these pages, originality is, perhaps, more apparent in the manner of presentation than in the matter. Quick at recognizing the virtues of the most recent, the author has not permitted newness to interfere with a careful estimate of real values. As much of novelty is found in the chapter on "critical points" as in any; in it, without denying the continuity of causation, provision is made for the unexpected. To illustrate: critical points appear when water is so cold that it can no longer remain a liquid, or so hot that it must assume a gaseous condition. As all matter is

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beset by critical points, it is evident that, directly or indirectly, these furnish abundant occasion for the revolutionary and the accidental. In general the work is philosophical and interesting; it emphasizes individual responsibility in right living and in the duty of education.

Greek Lines, and Other Architectural Essays. By Henry Van Brunt, Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1893.

MR. VAN BRUNT'S writing has a touch of imagination and a distinct literary quality that are unusual in a professional writer on architecture. It adds to the charm of a cultivated mind the definiteness of professional experience, and thus comprehends aspects of the art which the ordinary professional pen avoids for want of literary culture, and which the literary critic had better avoid for lack of positive knowledge. He approaches them with a sympathy that makes them interesting and suggestive, though it may, if unguarded, lead to deductions rather imaginative than real. The grace with which he can weave a web of various thought and fancy from a slender thread is shown in the essay on Greek Lines, which some of its present readers may recall as it first appeared in briefer form among the early numbers of the *Atlantic Monthly*. We have to confess, by the way, that the diagram which he gives of a typical Greek line is not to us so typical of any Greek work with which we are acquainted as of the French Neo-Grec. The critical reader will notice the facility with which Mr. Van Brunt makes his generalizations, and may be inclined to ask if he is always careful to verify his statements of fact.

Of the play of his thought and the frequent felicity of his expression there are many examples in the last essay of the book, on Architecture and Poetry, and in the poem which he very modestly introduces at the end—an illustration of what might be done by a poet who sympathized with architecture as architecture—from which we quote a few lines that indicate the architectural point of view:

> "The narrowing arch is deep and wide,
> Niched in its jambs on either side,
> Shaft beyond shaft in ordered state
> Stand on their solid stylobate,
> . . . . . .
> Arch within arch, with lessening leap,
> From shaft to shaft concentric sweep,
> Echoing inward o'er and o'er,
> Inward to the vaulted door."

Europe 476-918. By Charles Oman. [Periods of European History: Period I.] Macmillan. 1893. 8vo.

ALTHOUGH no summary of early European history has existed in English, it may be doubted if many persons have felt the lack. The processes of formation and growth have proved more attractive than the conditions of equilibrium or the process of decay. For this and other reasons, more or less obvious, readers and investigators alike have fixed their attention chiefly upon the Franks, the Saxons, and the Normans. Clovis, Charles Martel, Pepin, Charlemagne, Rollo, Alfred, are the names we connect with the centuries before 1,000 A. D. Vandal and Visigoth are forgot, Odoacer and Theodoric barely remembered, Justinian, Leo, Basil, little more than names, save to the lawyer or the Orientalist. The Eastern Empire, in the popular mind, has little or no connection with European history. Mr. Oman's book, therefore, will be acceptable to a large circle of readers. Mr. Hodgkin, it is true, has done much to popularize the Ostrogoths, but the fortunes of the Germans in Africa and Spain, and the long, dramatic story of the Romans of Constantinople, will be to many both new and interesting.

Mr. Oman has used his authorities with care and good judgment; he has an eye for proportion and the picturesque; he writes vigorously, but without dogmatism, and in an easy, readable manner, though the many heroes who in divers places and at sundry times "went forth conquering and to conquer" pall at last. In common with many writers of handbooks, he has the annoying habit of attributing to actions and events a finality of effect which quickly appears to be illusory. The narrative is mainly political, concerning itself with wars and courts, and touching infrequently and lightly upon the condition of the people or the constitution of society. The effect of feudalism upon military art is briefly mentioned, but no account of the system or its origin is given. There is an apparatus of genealogies, lists of rulers, and sketch maps.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Alger, J. G. Glimpses of the French Revolution: Myths, Ideals and Realities. London: Sampson Low, Marston & Co.
Brooks, B. A. Earth Revisited. Boston: *Arena* Publishing Co. 50 cents.
Conder, Josiah. Landscape Gardening in Japan. 2 vols. Yokohama: Kelly & Walsh; New York: Scribners. $25.
Hervey, Arthur. Masters of French Music. Scribners. $1.75.
Hutchins, Rev. C. L. The Church Hymnal, with Music. Boston: Published by the Parish Choir.
Jerome, J. K. John Ingerfield, and Other Stories. Henry Holt & Co. 75 cents.
Ropes, A. R. Mérimée's Colomba. Cambridge: University Press; New York: Macmillan. 50 cents.
Schrakamp, Josepha. Sagen und Mythen. Dyrsen & Pfeiffer. 75 cents.

THREE IMPORTANT HISTORICAL WORKS.

Hittell's Mental Growth of Mankind in Ancient Times. From Savagism through Early Christianity. 4 vols. 12mo, in box, $6.00.

Taine's Modern Regime. Vol. II Translated by John Durand. Completes M. Taine's *Origins of Contemporary France*, consisting of *The Ancient Régime*, *The French Revolution* (3 vols.), and *The Modern Régime*, Vol. I. Library Edition. $2.50 per volume.

Symonds's Short History of the Renaissance in Italy. Taken from his larger work by Lieut.-Col. Alfred Pearson. With portrait. 12mo, $1.75.

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